THE
English Monsieur
A
COMICAL NOVEL.
WHEREIN

His **Travells**, **Amours**, and other Passages of his life, no less strange than delightful, are faithfully set down, by an Impartial hand.

In Four Parts.

——— *Si mea Landas*
Omnia, stultitiam; si nihil Invidiam.

LONDON,
Printed for *William Cademan* at the Popes head in the New-Exchange in the *Strand* 1679.

To my Honored Friend
E. H. *Esq;*

Worthy Sir,

IN an age, when books had better be burnt for Hereticks, than presume to appear without the dull formality of an Epistle; such a notable defect would present them in as rediculous a *Querpo*, as a Courtier without the property of his Sword, though to both equally useless; therefore, least I should be taxed with too much ignor-

ance or presumption, to you who are our petty Heroes particular friend, and the depositary of his greatest secrets. To you, who have been an eye witness of some of the most remarkable inconveniences that his natural curiosity, restless disposition, Amours, Inclination, and fiery nature have plung'd him in: finally to you, that by consequence can best discerne what fruits are of his own groweh, from what he may have borrowed from his neighbours Orchards, I dedicate these following sheets. I am sensible that

that now I ſhould proceed to the ſetting forth of your praiſes, and humbly ſupplicate for your generous protection, but really I am ſo little accuſtom'd to the flattering ſtile of a Dedication, that I know not what more to ſay, therefore would gladly take the opportunity to end with the general concluſion of, Sir, your moſt humble ſervant, *B.*

But then, what would the Bookſeller ſay? who yet does expect ſo much ſcribbling as muſt fill up ſome empty pages of the laſt ſheet? why Faith to-

please all parties (if it be possible) I will make bold to lay you aside, and speak a word or two to the Curteous Reader, and that I hope will do the jobb.

In the first place, I will let him know, that he will find here such varieties of humours, as, I hope, will please him, provided he adds not a number amongst the peripatetick Cinicks. To such I must confess these things would prove eyesores, at least if not a *Scandalum Magnatum*, but to the Gay, Airy, and witty sort this may be useful while they

they leave the knoty points of the more moroſe part of learning to be cleav'd in ſunder with the Beetles of the ſowr Philoſophers underſtanding.

In the firſt part you will meet with ſuch accidents as wild young Travellers are apt to fall into, and if you pleaſe, you may make good uſe of them; In the ſecond you will be diverted with the extravagant conceits of a *Roſycrucians* chymereal Philoſophy, and ſublime learning in the obſtruce Sciences. In the third your imagination will be tickled

(eſpecially

(especially if ever you have put your nose in a chymical Author) with some quaint expositions of the most difficult points, on all things such as the envious malice or conceited ignorance of some Writers have left to posterity, wrapp'd up in those misterious riddles, that most wonderfully do puzle this age, and will fit the next for New *Bedlame*. But I advise you not to pin your Faith on all I say, for it may not in every point prove to be Madam truth in its *puris naturalibus*. And why you should expect to find more reality

reality in a Romantick story then in the Alchymists religiously grave Vollumes, I know not, except, *Ridendo dicere verum*, come in your mind, and delude you into the fooles Paradice. Well take your chance friend, while I inform you, that in the fourth part you will meet with the fruits and results of rash youth, when once it makes its own sword a Law, and every indifferent object the subject of his affections.

Now Curteous Reader, but that I think you wiser than my self, I would advise

vise you to follow what is good in the whole, (If you can find any) and so to take warning by others harms, as to go to bed in a whole skin, and the next morning sing to the tune of some new Ballad.

Felix quem faciunt, aliena pericula cautum.

Farewell.

THE

Playes Sold by *William Cademan* at the Popes head in the New *Exchange*.

Rivals a Comedy.
Cataline.
Island Princess.
Flora's Vagaries.
Town Shifts.
Citizen turned Gentleman.
Morning Rambles.
Fatal jealousie.
Macbeth.
Cambyses.
Empress of *Morocco.*
Herod and *Mariamne.*
Notes on *Morocco.*
Conquest of *Chyna.*
Ibrahim.
Pastor Fido.
Love and Revenge.
} all writ by *Elkana Settle* Gent.
Careless Lovers.
English Princess.
Reformation.
Spanish Rogue.
Marcellia.
The Mall.
Rehearsal.

Mock

Mock Tempeſt.
Dumb Lady.
Gentleman Dancing Maſter.
Alcibiades.
Dutch Lovers.
Pyſa's Conſpiracy.
Seige of *Nemphis.*
Rivall Kings.
Conſtant Nymph.
Wrangling Lovers.
Tom Eſſence.
French Conjurer.
Wits led by the Noſe.
Counterfeit Bridegroome.
Tunbridge Wells.
Man of New-market.
Northampton in her flames.

FINIS.

THE English Monsieur

A Comical Novel.

The First Part.

IN the Chief City of *England* there dwelt a married Couple, who, though they had not such Fortune as to raise them to the first Rank. They enjoy'd a sufficient Estate to maintain themselves in a handsome mediocrity above the Vulgar.

One only Child had been the result of their twenty years Love, on whom they had bestowed an Education rather beyond their Rank then futable to it. *Noble* was his Name,

b.a 45

he had not attained to his Nineteenth year, when his Parents were forced to part with their onely Joy, and all their hopes, by ſending him beyond Sea, thereby to reclaim and wean him from ſome company very unfitting his Age and condition, with whom he had unhappily acquainted himſelf, but all other means having been endeavour'd in vain, there was none left but that, which had ſo well ſucceeded to the Father, when about his Sons years, that they hoped for the ſame good ſucceſs towards the Son.

Noble was of an indifferent ſize, ſmall timber'd not very ſtrong, conſequently quick, active, of ſanguine fair complexion, and of a Reſtleſs diſpoſition; he had an inclination to travel, and being of a quick apprehenſion, and agreeable converſation, it rendred him acceptable to all companies of either Sex, eſpecially amongſt the Female, his natural conſtitution inclining him to *Venus* her worſhip, to the neglect of *Bacchus* his ſervice.

He had gone through the Rudiments of the Latine Tongue, attained to a perfection in the French, and received some instructions from Eminent Masters in Musick, the Mathematicks, Drawing, Fencing and such like gentile Exercises, when he forced his Parents to this Resolution, so contrary to their designs, and so agreeable to his own Genius.

Our young Traveller, was fitted with all things necessary for his Voyage, and an assurance of a Competent yearly allowance, so long as they should hear of his civil Conversation, and the following of his exercises: The day of his departure, Letters of Recommendations were given him to divers persons of Note and Repute in *Paris*, with a Bill of Exchange for a supply of monies, to see him in the French mode so soon as arrived. The tender Mother's tears, with her private Golden blessing ended the Adieus. The next morning, very early, up gets our Stripling, and directs his course towards *Dover*, where he met with a favourable pas-

ſage to *Calis*, there having joyn'd himſelf to the company of the Stage Coach (though on a ſtout Gelding) they ſet forward for *Paris*.

The laſt day of their journey the Coach found it very difficult to paſs over a certain ſmall brook, which was overflown by a ſudden fall of Rain, which made the Company reſolve to take up in ſome place on this ſide *Paris*, rather than hazard the paſſage. They therefore deſired our young Gallant to ride before to a certain Village, which they pointed at, and beſpeak a good Supper for the whole Company. *Le Noble* glad of any opportunity to oblige his fellow Travellers, gives no Anſwer, but ſlacking the Reins of his Bridle, made with a good ſpeed towards the place, lights at an Inn, where having taken care of his Beaſt, he beſpeaks a handſome Supper for ſeven or eight perſons, which would aſſuredly be there within an hour at furtheſt. In an inſtant mine Hoſt gives out the Orders unto all the Officers under him, and they Execute them with dilligence eve-

ry one according to his Station.

Noble, mean time having espy'd a young Maid, who was preparing of Candles to light this new come Guest to his Chamber, and perceiving that she had a certain Ayr and Meen, which was more pleasing than in such ordinary persons is commonly found, began a discourse, whereby to try whether her Wit was answerable to her pritty outside. He had but just found out by her quick, yet modest reparties, that she was something more than a Inn-Keepers Chamber-maid, when she was call'd to her business, which broke off the discourse, but it had been soon renewed again by our young Traveller, who would have found out some opportunity to have accosted her again, had not two Mendicant Friers diverted him from it by demanding his Charity, in a pritty kind of obliging Dialect: He having formerly heard that such persons are very pleasing and agreeable Company, did design to divert himself with these two good Brothers till Supper time, and leave his other

Game till after Supper: with that he falls in diſcourſe with them, and deſires their Company till Supper time, that then they ſhould not only have their ſhare of it, but carry the reſidue along with them. For, good Reader, you are to know, that thoſe kind of Mendicants never carry money about them, it being contrary to the Rules of their Order to ask for, or receive any. The good Friers accepted *Le Nobles* kind offer, and after a Glaſs or two of Wine, began to be in their uſual witty and modeſt Mirth; and then came out a multitude of very pleaſant Stories: of which thoſe perſons are alwaies as well provided, as are our Country Fidlers with Songs, ſutable to all humours and Companies, though ever accompanied with more modeſty. This made the time paſs merrily away, and the Coach not ſeem ſo long in coming, though it had paſs'd it's hour. While they were all on their jokes, in comes mine Hoſt fuming and puffing, ſwearing by all the fiery Gods, that the meat was almoſt

ſpoil'd

spoil'd, and yet no News of the Company, while the Host was thus venting that heat, which he had contracted at the fire, in comes a Messenger, with notice, that the Coach, having found out a by way was gone directly to *Paris*; these news one would think, should have struck our Traveller into a consternation, but nothing less appear'd in his looks; on the contrary, having bid the Host to serve up Supper, he told the Friers that he was glad to have met with their good Company, which with that of his Host, would be sufficient to divert him from Reflecting on this cross adventure, which concern'd him no further, than the not meeting with some friends, that would expect him that night at *Paris*. But it matters not, continued he, I shall be there early in the morning, mean time Gentlemen, the satisfaction I receive by your good Company, makes a sufficient return for my stay here this night; this Complement ended, while the good Friers were making some excuses, up come the fore-runners of

the Feaſt, and according to the French diligence, in a moment the Cloth was laid, the Diſhes placed in order, the Wine ſet in Tubs of water to Cool, the Glaſſes waſh'd, and in a word all in a decent readineſs, nothing wanting to begin the onſet, but the word of Command, which is uſually expreſs'd by a Benedicite. The Company had not been long ſet but news was brought up to the Hoſt, that the Curate was below that would ſpeak with him, at which the Hoſt ſaid, Sirs, this Curate of our Pariſh here, is the beſt Company of the World, he is for all humours and conſtitutions, will you be merry, no man hath better Stories, will you be ſerious, he is a Saint, would you play, he knows all Games and tricks, would you drink, that is his Element. In ſhort, Sir, he is for what any Company pleaſes, and I aſſure you, you will receive a ſingular ſatisfaction in his Company if you p'eaſe to admit him into yours. *Le Noble* needed no further inducement, he quickly gave order that he ſhould be brought

brought up: the Curate was no ſooner enter'd the Chamber, but he ſets himſelf down, and having ſaid, Gentlemen, you may think ſtrange at my abrupt intruſion into your Company, without the leaſt Complement, but you muſt know, that beſides my natural antipathy towards them, I find, that in the poſture you all are, I ſhould prejudice my ſelf very much in delaying to carry on the work of the day, eſpecially it being ſo near a concluſion; with that he fell on, every fift or ſixt bit calling for Wine, which he would take moſt diſdainfully from the Waiter, if no brimmer, and ſpoke not a word more till the Cloath was taken away. During the Supper, the two good Friers related divers pritty pleaſant Stories and all freely took their Cups. After Supper the Curate did highly recompence his long ſilence, there was no talk but for him, which he made up ſo pleaſantly with Songs and Ralleries, that no time could be more pleaſingly ſpent. Amongſt the reſt of his Stories, I ſhall give you here an account of his laſt, which he uſher'd

in with this preamble to the two good Friers (who were then filling their Budgets with the residue of the Meat according to *Le Noble*'s order.) Brothers, said he, I see you are now providing for your March, and I think it is high time, least you find the Gates of your Covent shut against you, and so be obliged, not much against your wills, to take up your nights Lodgings at some good neighbouring house, to the good mans disturbance, though peradventure with the good liking of the Wife, her Daughter, Maid, or all three, rather than disoblige any of them. But before you go, pray give me leave to relate what a pritty kind of Confession, one of your Order required from a pritty young, but very silly woman. I must confess, (answer'd one of the good Friers) that we were wondring that you had spared us so long, contrary to your usual Custome, but do your worst, we will give you a *Rowland* for your *Oliver*, and begin when you please. At these Menaces, have at you said the Curate, and thus he began his Story.

The

The Curate's Tale.

A Certain Good man, who had lately married a young Woman, againſt a good time was telling his Wife, that he deſign'd to go to Confeſſion, and that he would have her to do the like, ſhe excus'd her ſelf by informing her Husband, that ſhe having never yet been at Confeſſion, did not know the manner of it, nor knew ſhe to whom ſhe ſhould addreſs her ſelf, ſweetheart, ſaid the good man to his Wife, in the Monaſtery of the *Carmelites*, there is a certain Religious man of my acquaintance, to whom I will recommend you, for my ſake he will inſtruct you, and will ſhrive you very well, ſo giving his Wife the name of the Frier, he ſends her to the Covent. The good woman got thither inquires after the Frier, and ſhe is ordered to wait for him in the Church; not long after comes unto her the party, who inquires what ſhe deſired; to which with a Curteſie, ſhe made Anſwer, that her Husband, ſuch a one had

had sent her to him to confession, knowing that he was a godly man, and she young and unexperienc'd in such matters. At this the Frier pricks up his ears, and within his heart thanks his good fate, for presenting him with so good a Fortune, with that he takes her to an obscure place of the Church, where he us'd to confess others, and there, he holding her by the hand, began his Interrogations, and through his diligent Care and good Instructions, he made the Innocent Creature answer very directly unto all his questions. The Frier by this time having found by the sillines of her own Answers, that she was much Fairer than Wise, he resolv'd to bear up close to her, continuing his discourse in this manner. My dear Child, hitherto you have answer'd very punctually to all my questions, and accordingly I shall absolve you, but there is yet remaining one thing in which you must be very just, or you will commit a very great Sacriledge. Therefore be sure to give me a very exact account of what I am going to ask

ask of you. The poor ſilly Creature having made anſwer with a yea, Sir, and a ſhort Curteſie, he drawing her ſtill more in the dark, ſo that they could be perceived! It is my kindneſs to you, ſaid he, which makes me lead you ſo in the dark, that you may with more freedom anſwer to what I ſhall ask you, and with that holding her by the hand with one hand, and under the Chin with the other, dear Child, continued he, how often has your Husband lain with you? Be ſure you Anſwer me juſtly, and hid nothing from me? At this the ſilly young thing, anſwer'd with a great ſigh, truly ſo often within the compaſs of the half year they had been married, that it was impoſſible for her to know the number. At this Anſwer, the Frier ſeeming much ſurpriz'd, how ſaid he, not know the number, how can the Church have the Tithe then? And how can you hope for an abſolution ſo long as you withold the Church of its rights; I am very ſorry, continued he, that you are in ſo dangerous a condition, and for the Love I bear you, and by reaſon

of

of your want of knowledge in such matters, I would gladly find out some way to redress this great error, thus went the Frier on still aggravating each Circumstance, which so affrighted the poor silly woman, that she fell trembling upon her knees at the Friers feet, and all in Tears and Sobs earnestly begg'd, that he would contrive some way to absolve her from this so hainous a sin, seeing that she had committed it out of meer ignorance, and that her Husband was very much to blame, that he had not given her timely notice of it; and humbly intreated him to take the Tithes himself, as much as he thought fit, and rather more than less, that she might be absolutely freed and absolved from that grievous sin. The good Frier did what he could to appease her, and having setled her mind a little by his comfortable sayings, he told her, that for the present, he would be contented with some small part of the Tithes, but that he would take a longer time to compute what was due in all, for as he would

would not have the Church to loſe any advantage, neither would he for the World wrong her good Husband of the worth of a pin, with that he takes her by the Arm and conveys her by a ſecret paſſage into his Chamber, where he took what part of the Tithe he pleas'd, which having done and kiſſing the young Woman, go, my Child, ſaid he, and be chearful, I ſhall come ſometimes at your houſe, to take the reſt of the Tithes, but one thing more I muſt inform you of before you go, know that is a mortal ſin for any one to reveal any the leaſt part of Confeſſion, therefore you muſt be ſure not to declare, by any means ſoever, either to your Husband or any body elſe, what has paſs'd between you and me, for if you do, you will be damn'd for ever without redemption. To which the Penitent woman having anſwer'd, that ſhe would be ſure to keep ſilence, and deſiring him once more to take a larger quantity of the remaining Tithes, leaſt any evil ſhould happen to her or her Husband, by detaining them any longer, he, to

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gratifie her, and put her out of all fears, did make a further deduction of the arrears, and so dismiss'd her the same way she had come in, with his blessing, sending her home to the good man her Husband, with an assurance that he would come to her house and take the rest of the Tithes, when ever she would give him notice of her Husbands ablence. The Curate had proceeded so far, when one of the Friers with a great deal of impatiency did thus Interrupt his discourse.

I have had much patience to hear you speak all this while, though all that you have said is very true, and that the Story goes on a great way further, but that which makes me thus impatient at present is, that you should have the confidence to put upon any religious Order, that of which you your self are guilty, you being the very person that did this horrid act, for which you were deservedly punished by the Husband and afterwards turn'd out of that Benefice, which you had then in a Church

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in the City of *Lyons*, where this filthy Sacrileдge of yours was commited, I happened at that time to be there, and I remember you very well: How you came to be entertain'd Vicar in this place, I wonder at, but I aſſure you, that I will make a ſtrict inquiry after it, and have you puniſhed as you deſerve, being ſo great a ſcandal to the whole Church.

The good Frier would have gone on, and perhaps his Zeal to Religion, and his abomination of ſuch Crimes would have occaſion'd a Learned declamation againſt ſuch Sacrilegious perſons, but that the Hoſt willing to befriend the Curate (who was one of his conſtant gueſs) interrupted the good Frier, deſiring him to forbear at preſent any further diſcourſe on that ſubject.

The Curate at this was not mute, but in a Chaffing manner told the Company, that he would maintain all that he had ſaid was of a *Carmelite* Frier, that he knew him very well, that he would immediately go fetch ſome Writings in which they all ſhould

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ſee the Name and Sirname of the perſons concerned, and where and at what time this was done; ſo in a great fury he went down Stairs. Mean time, the good Frier having intreated *Le Noble* to give him but one quarter of an hours attention, that he might juſtifie his Order, and ſet the ſaddle on the right Horſe, he thus continu'd the Story.

The continuance of the Curates Story.

YOu have already heard the notorious Villanies of this wicked Curate from his own mouth, though he would gladly lay it upon ſome other, the crime appearing ſo hainous to himſelf; that he is aſhamed to own it, I will begin where he left off, and that he is that very perſon, I ſhall prove to morrow by undeniable evidences.

This abominable man, being impatient to purſue what he had ſo wickedly began, ſtaid not long till he went to viſit this abuſed young Woman, and his viſits grew ſo frequent,

quent, that at laſt, the good Huſband having ſome kind of ſuſpition of the buſineſs, did one day wait for this beaſtly man, and ſoon did intrap him ploughing with his Heifer. The Prieſt (for ſo he was then) finding himſelf diſcovered withdrew to his home as ſuddenly and ſecretly as he could poſſible. And the poor abuſed Husband having found by the Silly Anſwers, which his ſimple Innocent Wife made to his queſtions about the buſineſs, that ſhe had been, through her great ſimplicity, moſt abominably abuſed by this wicked fellows ſubtle and devilliſh practices; he was not angry with her, but having inſtructed and admoniſhed her, he left her very ſorrowful and penſive, and immediately went to complain to the Biſhop, of the abuſe done unto him in the perſon of his Wife. The Biſhop, with much patience heard out the poor man's Complaint, and ſeeming very angry, gave order that the Prieſt ſhould immediately be ſent for, which was accordingly done, ſo ſoon as he was in

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the Bishops presence; he asked him in a very angry and furious manner, what tempted him to do so wicked a thing, and after many threats and chidings, not giving him once leave to answer, he told him, that he would severely punish him for it, after these and many more big speeches having first dismiss'd all that were in the Room, but the Plantiff and the Delinquent, he strictly did forbid him ever for any more seting his foot into the injur'd man's house, nor ever to dare to speak to his Wife, or so much as look upon her, and for a further punishment, he charg'd him upon pain of Excommunication, not to enter into any Church during three whole dayes, and so dismiss'd them both. The Priest went home much discontented that he should no longer have so easie an access, as he had formerly to the good man's Wife, but what troubled him worst of all was the fears, that the Husband had disabus'd his poor innocent Wife, and better inform'd her for the future, so that he should be put to new practices,

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before he could reclaim her again. As concerning his exclusion from Church, it fitted so well his humour and inclinations, that he was the better pleas'd with it, because it gave him more leasure to retire and contrive new ways to once more Insnare that poor innocent soul.

The Husband on the other hand being not at all contented, with such a sort of satisfaction as he had received from the Bishop, resolves to make his complaint to the Governour of the City, with that he immediately goes to his appartment, and acquaints him with the whole Story, and most earnestly begg'd upon his knees, that he would do him such Justice, as were suitable to the offence he had received, since that he could not have it from the Bishop, who of Right was to have done it. The Governour, who was a person of as great integrity and goodness, as he was punctual and severe in his Government, told the poor fellow, that it was out of his power to do him Justice; but continued he, yet I would

not

not have such notorious villanies pass unpunished, therefore honest friend since thou canst not get any other redress from the Bishop then what thou hast mention'd unto me, which is so insignificant, and I knowing by very good informations, that both the Bishop and Priest are persons of lewd Lives and Conversation, I do advise thee that the next time thou find'st the Priest to attempt any thing upon thy Wife, thou gets some friends to assist thee, and having intrap'd him, Cudgle him to some purpose, but take care of killing him, or breaking any of his Limbs, and when thou hast done come to me, and declare before those persons, that I shall have there on purpose, the whole business both of the wrong done thee, the Bishops sentence against the offender, and thy revenge upon him, and let me alone with the rest, I shall take care that no hurt shall come to thee thereby. The good man, having thank'd the Governour, goes his way home again with a firm resolution to have his full Revenge, and to that purpose

watches

watches the Priest narrowly, and admonishes his Wife to do the like, which she gladly undertook, being highly incensed against him, now that her Husband had undeceived her. They both were not long before they had an opportunity presented them, for the Lascivous Priest thinking the time long till he were at his beastly Embraces again, though the three dayes Pennance were not yet fully expired; writ a passionate kind Letter to the young Woman, and had it privately convey'd to her by an Old woman, that us'd to be employ'd by him in such Embassies, who found an opportunity to deliver it privately into the young Womans hands, who going into some other place, as if to Read it in private, she gave it to her Husband, who having opened it found writ in it as follows.

My

My dear Child,

I Make no question, but the
thy Husband through an ex
cess of Jealousie, and contempt
the Holy Church, has put stran
things into thy head, as if wh
we have done together were n
Just and Lawful, not consideri
that whatsoever is done with
right intention, (though it mig
seem somewhat unusual, and appe
not very well unto Vulgar Eyes
would have a sinister end. No
dear Child, we cannot Err
what ever we do, so long as
direct our intentions aright, a
can they be better designed th
when we aim at nothing but
good benefit and honour of
Church, in paying and receiv
its dues? I long to inform th
throughly in this point which
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cannot do by writing; therefore let me desire thee, for thy own soules sake, to defer no longer the payment of the residue of those Tithes, which thy wicked Husband would defraud the Church of, give me notice then as soon as may be of an opportunity to come to thee, and then I shall fully inform thee of the Justice of the matter in hand, so that thou shalt be wholly convinced of the necessity of continuing our private meetings.

This Letter being read, the Husband, after a little pause, bid his Wife tell the Messenger that had brought it, that the Priest should not fail to come to her in the Orchard at midnight, where she long'd to see him and do justice to the Church, that she would leave the back door open, and that there they might be very secure from her Husbands Jealousie, with this Answer away goes the Messenger back, who made the Priest over-joy'd with this most favourable Answer, applauding his own wit and

subtlety, and longed most impatiently for the happy hour. In the mean time the Husband gets in readiness two of his neighbours with lusty Cudgels to entertain the Gallant with all, according to his deserts, at the appointed place.

The hour came: into the Orchard came the Priest likewise; where in liew of the good woman's kind reception, he met with one somewhat more crabbed at the hands of the Husband and his assistants. In short, they all three did so well handle their weapons, that in a short time they left the poor Lover not able to stir a Limb, which invited them to be so civil as to carry him between them at a little distance from the Orchard, where near a high way they left him.

In the morning, when people began to stir abroad, the half dead sinner was found in this condition by some going that way, presently it was reported to the Bishop, and the noise of it spread all over the City. The Priest is taken up, laid on a Hearse covered, and in great solemnity, and

demon-

demonstration of sorrow carried about all the quarters of the City, with a procession of Priests following after, and the hard usage of him told to every one that inquired into the matters, though not one word mention'd of the cause thereof, all this being done by the Bishops order; you must know, to strike sorrow and compassion, and that the severe punishment, which he intended to inflict upon the Deliquent, should be the less wondered at. The Governour hearing, that there was such a procession on foot, and not knowing the occasion, made some of his Servants inquire the reason of it, the business being reported to him, he takes cognizance of the matter, sends for the Criminal, and will have a business that caus'd so much disturbance in the City, to be discussed before him, and those Magistrates, as us'd to sit on criminal causes, to assist him in a matter of so strange a nature; the Criminal is brought before the bench, he confesses the fact, and withal the reasons that did move him to do it; the accu-

sers come to aggravate the Crime; the Bishop himself appears in the behalf of the Church, represents the affront done to the Clergy, and the evil consequences of it. The Governour upon that, asks of the Criminal why he had not complained to the Bishop, if he had had any wrong done him by any of the Clergy, who doubtless would have done him Justice, and not offer to carve to himself as he pleas'd out of Justices store! To which the poor man answers, that he had made his complaints to the Bishop, but had received so little satisfaction the first time, and the punishment was so insignificant to the Delinquent, that it had not deterr'd him from committing the same fault over again, very suddenly after, so that he was resolved to do himself Justice. The Governour inquires into the manner and nature of the punishment, to know whether it was proportion'd to the Crime, and being Certified, that what the Malefactor had told him of the Bishops sentence upon the Priest was true, he stood up,

and

and pronounced this sentence with a loud voice; For as much as the Criminal, that stands at the Bar before us, has confessed the Crime he is accused of, and that it is sufficiently proved by the injured persons own mouth, and the marks that remain yet upon the Body of the ill treated, which he has lately received from the said person; I hear declare and pronounce, that the said Criminal, shall be suspended, and is hereby suspended, from going into any Tavern during three whole dayes; and that in case the said Delinquent does offer to set his foot into any Tavern, whatsoever or wheresoever, during the said time, after the giving of this sentence, that then he shall be proceeded against, as shall be judged fit.

This Ironical, but just sentence; having produc'd much joy on the one side, and more spight and vexation on the other. The Bishop in the name of the Clergy, stood up, and said, that he would appeal of this affront done to the Church in his Person, to a Supreme Power, so

went his way, with the rest of the Crew.

He was after that as good as his word, and the Governour, (who did stick close to him and the Delinquent Priest) having exhibited those evidences, which he had gathered against them both, and the witnesses being heard, the Bishop was quietly laid aside, and the Priest degraded and turn'd out of his Benefice, all as privately as might be, that the less scandal should arise to the Church, by the wicked actions of such dangerous men. Now, Sir, I have made an end of my Relation, which I will avouch to be true to a tittle.

At this *Le Noble* rising and returning thanks to the two good Friers, for their good company and agreeable conversation, he assured them, that he did believe all that the Frier had said, was very true, and that he was further convinced thereof, by the Curates absence, whose guilty Conscience would not let him return. With that the Friers taking leave with many thanks, went their ways, and

and *Le Noble* gets into his bed Chamber, where having call'd for the Host in order to pay the reckoning, that he might be the sooner gone in the morning. The house discharged, he goes to make fast his door, but finding neither Lock nor Bolt to it, he did make a barricado against it, of all that he could find in his Chamber, and then he flings himself upon the bed in his Cloaths, with his Pistols, and his Sword by him, having left the Candle burning in the Chimney.

Some hours after, our Traveller being in a profound sleep, he was awakened out of it with the great noise, that those things which he had set against the Door, upon the Table made in falling, he throws himself off of the Bed, betwixt asleep and awake, full of fears, and in so doing makes one of his Pistols fall on the ground behind him, which went off and presently he heard some body cry out murther, the fright which he was in before being so great, he presently fancied that the Pistol had been shot at him, this struck him

into

into ſuch a terrour, that he fancied a thouſand perſons were at hand, with Swords and Piſtols to murther him, which made him ſtand ſtock ſtill, not daring almoſt to breath, much leſs to ſpeak.

After ſome time, finding that all was quiet his door ſhut and no body near him, he began to move and venture to cry out, *Qui va la*, hearing no body anſwer him, he ſteps towards the door, and makes up his Barricado again, then retiring towards the Bed ſees a folded Paper lye at his feet, he takes it up and finds this writ in it.

Sir, there is a deſign in this houſe againſt your Life, go not in Bed but ſtand upon your guard all night, and keep your door well ſhut. But I will break their meaſures or loſe my Life, ſo long as Suſetta *is your Champion you need not fear.*

Le Noble, ſoon perceiv'd that it came from the Maid, he had been fooling with the Evening before, but won-

der'd very much at the ſtile and character, much better than might be expected from a common Servant, which made him think that ſhe was ſomething more, then what ſhe appear'd to be, this brought into his mind, that during his jeſting with her, he had found her full of quick repartees, a good diſcourſe, an obliging modeſt way, and quite of another ayr, than that of an Inn-keepers maid. This began to work upon his fancy wonderfully, and repreſenting to himſelf her pritty ſhape, her black eyes and hairs, and her excellent Complexion; if it did not produce Love in his heart, yet it created a great eſteem for her in his mind, which was very apt to take fire, he ſpent the reſt of the night, in muſing upon this Theam, ſo ſoon as break of day appear'd, he heard *Suſetta* making towards his Chamber door, ſinging this Song.

The Enemies gone, the Coaſt is clear.
'Tis time for Damon *to appear.*

This delivered with a good voice, ſhe knocks at the door, *Le Noble* know-

ing who it was by her voice, presently opens to her, who then appearing to him a thousand times prittier, in that negligent morning dress she was in, that made an end of his liberty; his standing mute, gaping upon her, gave her time to speak thus, Good morrow to you, Sir, I fear you have not had much rest this night, but it is well you are come off at so cheap a rate, I hope, you will pardon the boldness that I take, to intrude thus in your Chamber this morning, when you know it is in orders to your further safety, I perceive that you have read that note, which I convey'd into your Chamber last night under the door, when you were fast? And making as if she would take it out of *Le Noble's* hands; pray, Sir, continued she, take that pitiful Scribling: pitiful Scribling, reply'd, *Le Noble*, it is a jewel, and for the pritty Scriblers sake I'le wear it here, with that he puts it into his bosome. Oh fie, Sir, said she then, do not defile your skin, with the touch of what a dirty Chamber maid has handled: That has made it

it she more bright, reply'd, *Le Noble*, and that high esteem I have for it proceed from the luster, that that pritty Chamber-maid, as you call her, has communicated to it, by the sweet influence of her hand. Nay, Sir, if you begin to Complement, reply'd *Susette*, I must leave you, for besides that I know they must be all flatteries, which you speak of me, such poor Creatures as we are, know not how to answer them, therefore let me intreat you, Sir, to forbear, and give me leave to inform you of the occasion of my coming to you so early; with that *Le Noble* taking her by the hand and leading her to the bed side, where with much ado he oblig'd her to sit down by him, he told her, that he was very much oblig'd to her, for her care of his Lucrey, and desired her to relate him how she came by that knowledge: Sir, said she, not long after you had retired into your Chamber, I going to the place where I lie, perceiv'd a light through a Chink which was in a back room below stairs, where re-

ry rarely any person enters. I thinking that every body was gone to Bed, it made me the more curious to know on what occasion it was there, I came as near as I could to that place through which I had seen the light, and there I spy'd my Master and the Curate that was with you the last night, this still increas'd my curiosity, which made me lend an ear to their discourse, I could hear the Curate say, it is not that which troubles me, Damn the Frier? That which I fear, is to be arrested to morrow morning, and to have a Child laid to my charge, those are the causes of my troubles, which how to remove, I know not, but by removing my self. But how is that to be done, reply'd my Master: I have a way said the Curate, if you would but assist in it: To tell you the truth, reply'd my Master, I am in a worse condition then you are, and therefore let us lay our heads together, and assist one another as well as we can, for I have not above a day or two's time to look about me, the

the worst on't is, that I have no horse, I should not want money long, if I had a good one: is there not a good one in the Stable, said the Curate? It is but ridding your self of his Master, and the beast is your own, for my part I'le make use of the best of those two Jades, that are in the other Stable, and take my fortune with you, at whatsoe're you please: you propose what is not amiss, reply'd my Master, but the way to do it, is the business, I'le go see whether the Coast is clear, and then we will contrive, with that taking up the Candle, that forc'd me to retire into my Chamber, not daring to hearken any more, for fear I should lose my self and you also, for I concluded within my self, that it was of you they had spoken, seeing there was no other Horse in the Stable but yours; I presently writ that Note you found upon the floor, which I had convey'd there under your door, and did resolve to watch their motions narrowly that night, so that they should miss of an opportunity to do you mischief, about an hour af-

ter

ter I did steel down the stairs again in the dark, to gain a further knowledge of their proceedings, but the Counsel was broke up, and I perceiv'd the Curate, with a long Knife, which we use in the Kitching, following my Master, who carried the Candle before him, this made me conclude, that they were coming to murther you, I was so seiz'd with fear, at this sight, that presently stealing up stairs again, I gave a great blow against you Chamber door (as I cam by it) thinking thereby to have awakened you, with a design to have immediately run into my Chamber, and have cry'd out Thieves and Murther so loud and so long, till I had rais'd the Neighbourhood; which I did believe would prevent them from proceeding any further. But it fell out better than I expected, for the noise which those things made which had fallen down with any push against your door, and you having discharged your Pistols upon it, gave me a just occasion to cry out Theife, which had their wish'd effects, for presently

after

after looking out of the Window, which answer'd into the yard, I did see both the Conspirators going towards the Stable, which made me conclude that they had quite given over the attacking of you, to seize upon your Horse: but I saw them make towards the other Stable, where they were above an hour, I never took my eyes off the door till I saw them come out again, each having a Horse by the Bridle, which they hung upon the Pails of the yard, presently after my Master comes in, and as suddenly went out again with some Pistols and a Gun, he open'd the yard door, they both got on Horseback, the door was shut after them, and away they went. I went presently after to see if the Coast was clear, to be more certain of your safety, by their absence. But dear Sir, continued *Susetta*, my fears for you are not quite over yet, it is very probable, that having been disappointed at home, they have taken Horse to execute their designs abroad, therefore let me beg of you Sir, not to go directly to *Paris*, but get to some other

place,

place, whence you may have a guide to conduct you, to your journeys end. *Le Noble*, gave her a thousand, thanks for her care of him, telling her that if he was once on Horseback, he would not fear what they could do to him, and that he would not go a step out of his way for them, with this she renewed her intreaties and prayers to him, with so much earnestness and passion to dissuade him from it, that he could not but perceive that she was more than ordinarily concerned for him, which made him promise to follow her advice, and having told her that he was confident she was not what she appear'd to be, it being impossible to find so much generosity and goodness in a common breast, she with a kind of rallery, and a most taking gesture told him, that if he would continue in that opinion, and honour her so much as to keep her in his memory; she would e're long (if he would give her leave) come to him at *Paris* and endeavour to confirm him in that good opinion, there being something in the business, which her modesty would

would not give her leave to diſcover to ſo great a ſtranger as he was, with that *Le Noble* aſſured her that he ſhould be the moſt ingrateful of mankind, ſhould he not be ſenſible of her ſingular kindneſs to him in a more than ordinary manner, that thoſe good Offices of hers, that ſhe had done him, had for ever ingrafted her not only in his mind, but in his heart alſo, for proof whereof he moſt earneſtly deſired, that ſhe would come to him at *Paris*, where ſhe ſhould find a moſt kind reception, and that he would ſerve her with his Life and Fortune, that gratitude bound him to it, and that he could never do too much for his dear preſerver, with that he gave her inſtructions how to find him, and having taken out of his pocket a Purſe full of Gold, he deſired her to take what ſhe pleas'd out of it, which ſhe would by no means do, pleading that ſhe had no occaſion for it, that what ſhe had done for him, was on another principle then intereſt, and that this his offers made her fear he had not ſuch fair thoughts for her, as

she hoped and wished he might have. *Le Noble* seeing that he could not fasten any money upon her, and being the more perswaded of her gentility by this generous refusal, he pull'd off a Diamond, which he had on his finger and presented it to her, telling her by the acceptance or refusal of it, he would know whether she had as much esteem for his person, as she had had compassion for his dangers: And with much ado he got it on her finger, and would not permit her to take it off again; she at last, being in a manner forced to comply with his solicitations, told him, Sir, since it is your pleasure to have me accept of so great a present, be pleas'd to take notice that it is upon condition you will be assur'd of the high esteem I have for your person, and that you will be pleas'd to receive it again, when I have the honour to see you next. By this time it was full day, and *Susetta* being call'd for, she desired *Le Noble* to excuse the condition she was in, being obliged to go about her business, to take all occasions of Suspitions off of her

and

and ſaying this, ſhe pull'd the Ring, which *Le Noble* had given her, off of her finger, and laying it up ſafe in her boſome, this is the Cabinet in which I ſhall preſerve your preſent, Sir, till I have the happineſs of ſeeing you again, with that making a Courteſie, and an offer to be going. *Le Noble* ſtept to her and having kiſs'd her, once more repeated his proteſtations of friendſhip, and ſo they parted: ſhe about her buſineſs, and *Le Noble* to ſee his Horſe dreſt and fed, no ſooner was the Horſe got in a readineſs, but *Le Noble* having given ſome money amongſt the Servants, gets on Horſe-back, and having inquired which way he ſhould get out of the Village, made his Horſe carry him towards that place. He had a deſign to ſhun the Road from that place to *Paris*, but his fate would carry him into it againſt his reſolution, ſo that of a ſudden he found himſelf in a certain paſſage, which had been noted to him, for a very dangerous place.

It was too late to retire therefore he reſolved to truſt his fortune on the heels

heeles of his good horſe, if he ſhould be attacked; he had not Rid a furlongs length, upon this heat or plain, but that he eſpies two perſons coming up towards him from the wood on his left hand, he preſently concluded them, to be his two Enemies, as really they were, with that reſolving to rely upon the goodneſs of his horſe, yet taking a Piſtol in his hand, he begins a handſome Gallop, which in a little time, and before thoſe two could joyn him had brought him in ſight of ſome horſe men, that were coming towards him, this made him put forwards, and the two others to fall back *Le Noble* having met with the Company, they all ſtood ſtill to admire his Horſe, and one of them deſiring him to ſtop he did ſo, turns back, and ſtands ſtill they all admires his horſe, askt if it was to be ſold, to which he anſwers yes, if once he was in *Paris* with him, one deſired to ſee him walk, another to ſee him Trot, and another to ſee him Gallop; *Le Noble* perceiving, that his two ſetters were taking a Compaſs to get before him, without being knowns

and

and seeing also that those he was with did whisper to one another, and did endeavour to come to his horses head, which he still prevented; at last he told them, that if they had a mind to see the horse Gallop they must Gallop also, with that he sets spurs to his horse, and in a moment he had left them at such a distance, behind him, (he continuing his speed to the very gates of *Paris*) so that he never set eyes on them more.

No sooner was our escaped Traveller got secure within the Walls of that Great City, but he looked about and inquired for one of the best Inns; there he lights and sets up his horse, sees him well rub'd and Litter'd, hay given him, and then he asked for a bed for himself, and truly by this time, he wanted one, he calls for the Master of the Inn, gives him his Pistolls in charge, Orders somebody to go to the Coach of *Roan* for his Port Mantel, and sends another messenger to the very other end of the Town to seek out the house of one of those persons to whom he was recommended, to deliver him a

letter

Letter, having given those orders, he marches up to his Chamber, and having told the Servants of the house, that he would not be awakened nor disturb'd till he call'd; To bed he goes, which no doubt he found very refreshing after all his fatigues, watchings and fears, he soon fell asleep without nodding, and took his full of it. The first thoughts that came into his head, when he awakened again, was of his dear *Susetta*, he endeavoured to put them by: but it would not do, he was naturally of a Sanguine and amorous Complexion, and that passion had alwayes an absolute Empire over all the faculties of his soul, therefore he thought it was in vain for him to oppose against so great a Torrent; attendance being come, he makes inquiry after his Horse, which he hears is very well, next demands for his Valise, and then asks if the Letter was delivered, his Cloak-bag is brought to him from the Coach, and news that the Messenger, that was sent with the Letter, could not possibly find out that house by the direc-

ons

on that was upon it, this made him resolve to make a search after it himself, but thinking that by that time he had seen his Horse drest and fed, and himself dine, it would be too late in the day to begin this progress, he resolvd to let it alone till the next morning, and so repose himself, the rest of that day.

The next morning up he gets betimes, and dresses himself in the amplest manner he could, and so sets forth in quest of his Marchant, but to as little purpose, as the former Messenger, he had quite tired himself, and was endeavouring to return to his Inn, once more looking upon the Superscription of the Letter before he put it up, which there comes by him a person in a gentile habit, who looking also on the Letter, *A Monsieur, Monsieur La Perle?* Sayes he aloud, Sir, I am very glad that it is my fortune to find you here, at such a time as I can serve you, in bringing you unto that Gentleman, my very good friend and old acquaintance, Sir, reply'd *Le Noble*, in the loss

I am at, at present, I shall make bold to accept of your kind offer, and return you many humble thanks, for your extraordinary Civillity, to a person so much a stranger to this part of the World as I am. Sir, no more Compliments, I beseech you, reply'd *Le Noble*'s new guide, the very name of that Gentleman would make me do a thousand times more for your service: come, Sir, follow me, the way is something long, intricate, and dirty, but we shall overcome it; with that he faces about, goes a good round pace, and *Le Noble* follows close after, with a great fear of losing so good a fortune, before he had had the full benefit of it, his guide leads him through abundance of intricate by ways and Alleys, at last they come into a certain blind narrow street; the guide pulls a Key out of his Pocket, opens the door sets *Le Noble* in formost, partly by Complement, partly by force, he bolts the door after him, and shoves him upstairs before him.

Being come into a little dining room, he makes his Complement to *Le Noble*, desires him to sit down, while

while he went into the next room to ſpeak to a friend, that he had but two words to ſay, and then he would wait on him to his Merchant, that was but cloſe by, and ſo ſteps into the next room, and pulls the door after him: mean time *Le Noble* ſets him down to reſt himſelf, in expectation of his Guides return, at laſt his natural Impatiency makes him think the time long, and his reſtleſs humour obliges him to walk up and down the room, and to pry in every Corner, at laſt he hears a kind of noiſe, of quarrel and ſwearings, as if at ſome farther diſtance than the next room, and as he gave attention to it, of a ſudden all was huſht; this put ſome jealouſies into his mind, which had made him ſteal privately out of the houſe, but that he thought that he had heard his guide lock the door upon them, ſo ſoon as they were come in, and this increaſed the more his fears, with that he ſteps to the Window, opens it and looks out, with an intention to have call'd ſome body in, but that lookt into a back yard, where he could ſee no body.

The longer he waited the more did his fears increaſe; he ſteps to that door in which his Guide was gone, when he left him, hearkens, peeps through the key-hole, but could not ſee nor hear any body, which made him attempt to open it, but he could not, all theſe things did highly perplex him; as he was feeling round the hangings, to find out ſome other coveyance for him to get out at, he felt a hollow ſpace, he goes to the Corner of the room, takes up the hangings, and though the place was dark, he could perceive a white Cloath, as if it were upon a Table, he goes towards it, and in the dark, feels, as well as he could, what it ſhould be, at laſt, laying his hand upon ſomething like a face, very cold and clamy, he did withdraw himſelf from that place, and being come to the light found that his hands were all bloudy, at this, ſuch a Terror and Horror ſiez'd ſo ſtrongly upon his Spirits, that he was never able to give an account of what he did, immediatly after that; but what he can remember neareſt to that bloudy ſight, was that he thinks he leapt down

ſtairs

ſtairs, yet was not certain, but when he came to himſelf again, he found himſelf at the bottome of the ſtairs upon the floor, and a man over him, and the ſtreet door a little open, and one of his legs between the door and the door caſe; being come to himſelf again, and ſeeing the condition he was in, he Cry'd out Murder, at which ſome paſſing by ſtopt, and inquired what was the matter, he that held him under anſwered preſently, that it was nothing, but a young Rogue, he had catch'd ſtealing of ſome things, they, not ſtaying ſo long as to hear *Le Nobler* complaints, only ſaying pay him Rogue, went their wayes. This made *Le Noble*, ſet open his Throat, the wider, and ſtruggle for life, which had ſo good an effect, that the next that came by were ſtopped at theſe outcryes of Murder, and concerned themſelves in the buſineſs, not taking the mans excuſes for currant, and perceiving by that Leg which was out of door, that it belong'd to an apparel, ſomewhat of another kind, then ſuch Rogues, as he would make

Le Noble pass for, do commonly wear, they forced themselves in; no sooner he that was upon *Le Noble* perceived that they would come in by force, but he left his prey, and murmering, got up stairs, *Le Noble* got up, and seated on the lower step declared to the company, that did continually increase, what he had found in the Chamber, that there was doubtless some body murthered in the house, and begg'd that he might be conveyed any where out of that place, in safe custody till the house was searched, there was not found any person in it, but two dead bodies, in a Vault, joyning the Cellar, and a head, in that place that *Le Noble* had mentioned, but a more strickt search being made, even over that house and the neighbouring, there was found in a gutter belonging to a house, about the fourth from that the murtherer was in, a man that lay close behind a chimney, who was discover'd by the brim of his hat, which gave a shadow upon the house top; he was presently apprehended and brought were *Le Noble's* was detained, who presently knew

him

him to be his falſe guide; as the Officers were moving in order to carry them to priſon in comes *Le Nobles* Merchant, who had been ſent for, ſo ſoon as *Le Noble* had given evidence of his innocency by divers Circumſtances, he being a perſon well known and of authority, became *Le Nobles* Bail, with ſome perſons preſent, that freely offered to joyn with him in *Le Nobles* delivery, ſo was he ſet at liberty again, and the Murtherer carried tō priſon, where after he had been thrice applyed to the Rack, the third time he confeſſed much more than was already known, but could never be brought to diſcover any of his complices, upon which receiving ſentence, he was the next day broke alive, and ſet upon a wheel twenty four hours in publick veiw for a Terror.

The Merchant having got *Le Noble* free, invites him to his houſe, there to be, till he was recovered of his bruiſes, and that he could provide himſelf elſewhere of private lodgings. *Le Noble* accepts of his civility, but firſt they go together to *Le Nobles* Inn,

where having discharged the reckoning, the Host told him that if he would sell his horse, he had a Chapman for it, *Le Noble* willing to part with his beast, the Gentleman was call'd, and in few words the bargain was made, and *Le Noble*, receiv'd a hundred Pistols for it, with that a Coach being call'd *Le Nobles* things were put into it, and his Merchant and he were carried to his house. *Le Noble*, after a weeks time thought it convenient not to incommode his host any longer but to retire in private lodgings, having taken his leave of his Merchant, and returned him many thanks for his civilities away he goes to another part of the City, where he had taken lodgings.

Le Noble, during the time that he was with the Merchant, had contracted a particular friendship with a young man, much of his years, the Son of an Advocate of *Paris*, he was a good comely black man somewhat of a stronger make than *Le Noble*, and more addicted to the Bottle, than the Sheer.

One day *Marcine* came to aquaint

Le

Le Noble, that his Father had ordered him to go the next morning a journey into the Country, about ſome buſineſs, which would keep him out three weeks, and that if he would go with him he ſhould be glad of his company, *Le Noble* having that day buſied his thoughts more than ordinarily upon the abſence of his *Suſetta*, which he began to think very long, this had made him out of humour and Melancholly, which made him tell his Companion that being very much diſordered by their late debauches, he would make uſe of the advantage of his abſence, to take ſome phyſick, ſo deſired to be excuſed. *Marcine* gone, *Le Noble* locks himſelf up, in his Chamber that he might not be interrupted from giving his thoughts wholly up to his pretty *Suſetta*, ſometime he would frame a deſign of going to ſeek after her in diſguiſe, then the danger of being known taking him off of that, he would be for ſending a meſſenger on purpoſe, with a letter to her, theſe deſigns were followed with a thouſand more, which ſtill undid one another

other thus revolving in his thoughts to no effect, and it being pretty forward in the night he gets him to bed, where preſently after he falls a ſleep.

In the Morning news was brought him, that there was a Letter for him, he having opened his door and received it, he preſently found that it was ſubſcrib'd with the Name of his Dear *Suſetta*: The joy, which he received at the pleaſing ſight of that Character, made him give it a thouſand kiſſes, before he had the Patience to read the letter, having ſpent ſome of his fires upon that part, he had Patience to read the reſt, which he found as follows.

DEar Sir, by a ſtrange accident I am now at a further diſtance from you then you left me, If that good opinion that you were pleaſed to entertain of me was real, or not impair'd ſince by abſence and this removal, I hope you will take the pains to come and fetch me; by your proceedings in this I ſhall know what place I hold in your thoughts and eſteem,

if

if you please to inquire at the Golden-Key *in the High-street at* Gifford, *there you shall hear farther from your most obliged Servant,*

SUSETTA.

This Letter he read and cond over and over, as if he would have learn'd it by heart, at last thinking he understood the full meaning of it, he makes a resolution to take that journey, and with that rises in order to fit himself of all things necessary, which done, the next day he gets on horseback, and sets forwards towards *Normandy.*

His first dayes journy had nothing in it remarkable, but the next will afford us something worth taking notice of: it happened that in the evening, he took up his lodgings at an Inn, were three or four Coaches meeting that very day, the house was extream full, and he coming late, and every body having supped, he was forc'd to bespeak a Supper for himself: mean time, while his Supper was getting ready seeing amongst the rest

of these Companies that were not yet retired into their Chambers, a pritty brisk young Woman that was very frolick, he accosts her, and falls into discourse with her, he found her of a very fine humour and pleasant converse which had made him pass an hours time very agreeable, had it not been interrupted sometime by an important Husbands calls; which having not been regarded, though often repeated, the Husband came down some steps, and told his Wife, that if she did not come presently, he would come and fetch her; she regarding it not did continue her discourse with *Le Noble*, seeming as well pleased with his good Company and gay some humour as he was with hers.

This set the goodman in such a fury, that he came hastily down in his night Cap and slippers, and taking his Wife by the Arm, he pull'd her off from her seat giving her such a swing as had like to have flung her on the flour, saying, is this a time o'th' night to be tattling with a youngster, so that you cannot listen to your Husband

band, when he calls you? get you up to your Chamber, or I'le send you up with a witness, she recovering her self, told him, that she knew her own time without his advice, that if he had such mind to his bed, he might go if he pleas'd, for her part she had not, and that she would stay till she had a mind to it. Mean time it is very strange, continued she, that you cannot forbear shewing your brutish humour in publick, especially in presence of a Gentleman so civil, and of so pleasing a conversation; upon this the Husband going to take her again, by the Arm, *Le Noble* offer'd to enterpose in a civil manner, desiring the Husband to forbear all harsh usage towards a person, who doubtless, had no further intentions then to pass an hour or two in a chearful conversation. At which the angry Husband, did snappishly answer, who are you, pray? That thus undertake to teach me? When I want a Master, I shall send for you, mean time meddle with own business. Go and get you a beard before you undertake

to

to instruct a man of my years. Here his Wife interrupted him, intreating *Le Noble* to take no further notice of his impertinance, assuring him that if it were not that she would detain him no longer from his Supper, she would in spight of her Husbands ill humour, stay as long as she pleas'd: but that she did hope to recompence this lost time the next day, if it was her good fortune to travel the same way. With that she made him a Curtesie and retired, follow'd by her angry Husband, who did resolve to break their measures, telling them, that they did reckon without their Host, and that he would prevent their coming together again.

Le Noble could not forbear laughing at this Jealous man's actions, though vex'd that he had so soon lost his pretty companion. Supper being ready he fell to it, with a resolution to have another bout with his Gentlewoman the next morning. Having supp'd he ask'd for a Chamber it was answer'd, that he might have one if he pleas'd, but that there was ne're a bed empty, the house being so full, that every bed had two in it,

exe-

except one Gentleman, that lay single, that if he pleas'd to accept of part of his bed, they would go desire the Gentleman to spare it him. It being late there was no remedy, so that *Le Noble* was forced to go to bed to that Gentleman, who did very civily receive him.

In the dead of the night there was a great out-cry heard of fire, which made all the people of the house to rise to know what was the matter. *Le Noble* and his bed fellow amongst the rest, so did the troublesome Husband, who lay in the next Room to them. The inquiry made, it was found to be some small harm, that an ill extinct Candle had done, which being perceiv'd by a person between sleep and awake, which made him apprehend it to be worse than it was, had cryed out fire; but that all was well again. This made every one to retire to bed again in the dark, as they had got out of them.

Le Noble, not long after he was in bed, heard his bed fellow sigh and say, sure never poor woman was troubled

bled with such a Husband as I am, at this *Le Noble*, considering where he was, did stretch forth his hand, that it might serve him in the dark instead of Eies, and feeling about, he laid it upon a head, which he imagin'd did belong to a woman, by the dress and sliding his hand a little lower, he found by a plump, round pair of breasts, that he was not deceived, with this he concluded that this was his last nights companion, which he had so fortunately met with by mistaking her Chamber for his, and hearing no body stirring, he concluded also that her Husband by a-like mistake, might be got to his bed. This having enboldned *Le Noble*, he took the liberty to embrace his bed fellow, and to whisper in her ear, who he was, and how he had come thither, desiring her to make no noise, and after some little buse which she made at the first surprisal, he had time to tell her. Seeing in spight of her Jealous Husbands ill humour, it had pleas'd fortune to bring them in bed together, she was to conclude that the fates had decreed it so. The rather too,

too, because her Husband did give them so fair an opportunity, by his absence, though, he supposed, much against his will, that therefore she was not to refuse him, what his good fortune had so bountifully bestowed upon him, she made some slight resistance, and pleaded much the unjustice of the action, to which *Le Noble* having made such answers as brought her to say, but Lord what would my Husband say should he know it, he found by that, that the fort was yielding, therefore, after some more few kind words and Caresses, he made use of this opportunity, to revenge himself upon the Wife, of the Husbands rudeness to him.

After some stay with her she would have had *Le Noble* gone, but he pleaded, he knew not whither he should go, thus naked as he was, for there was no question but her Husband having got to bed to his bedfellow, who he had doubtless taken for her, he was fast enough till morning; and that so soon as day should but ne'r

ſo little appear, he would leave her, though to his very great regret, with that they renewed their Careſſes, ſo that they were very well ſatisfied with one anothers Company.

A little before break of day, as they had concluded it, between them, *Le Noble* having taken leave of his kind bedfellow, he goes out of the Chamber leaving the door open after him to ſhift for himſelf till the door of his Chamber was opened, but paſſing by it, he could not forbear trying whether it was open or not, having lifted the latch, the door yielded to him, he preſently gets in, and makes ſome kind of noiſe on purpoſe, that it ſhould be heard, but the firſt time failing of his expectation, he made ſuch a noiſe, that our jealous man being awakened by it, who thought preſently, that it was ſome body to rob him of the jewel his Wife, or to ſteal ſomething elſe, with ſuch like thoughts, he gets out of bed, and having cry'd, *qui Va là*: he preſently makes towards the door, which finding cloſe ſhut, but neither locke nor

boled

bolted, he opens it, and steps into the passage to satisfie himself the better, mean time *Le Noble* gets from the Corner of the Chimney where he had retired, fastens the door within side, and presently gets to his own bed, the affrighted man having search'd up and down in the dark, and finding no body, he comes back to *Le Nobles* Chamber door, which finding Shut, he thought he had mistaken it, and feeling out for another door finds that of his own Chamber, somewhat standing open, as *Le Noble* had left it, into which being got, he shuts it, and goes to bed, as well satisfied as if he had lain there all night.

Not long after day appear'd, and presently comes one up knocking at every Chamber door, to give notice that it was time to rise, instantly the Window Curtains began to be drawn in every Chamber, and a noise heard, which still encreased as passengers were rising and getting ready.

You may imagine that *Le Noble* was none of the last, for the last he had

had to bid his ſweet fellow, good mor-
row, he gets himſelf ready, and goes
out of his Chamber: our Jealous Hus-
band was the firſt that *Le Noble* met
with in the paſſage, they bid one ano-
ther good morrow, *Le Noble* told him,
that he hoped that he was not ſo angry
with him as he ſeem'd to be the night
before, the Husband (whoſe anger
was over) anſwer'd him, that he
begg'd his pardon, but that it was
her croſs humour, and obſtinacy,
that had ſet him ſo out of humour:
Le Noble return'd him his Comple-
ment, and told him that for his part,
he never us'd to carry ſuch things long
in his mind, for proof whereof he
would deſire him and his bed-fellow,
to take part of a breakfaſt, with him
and his bed-fellow, the good man,
who was as covetous as Jealous,
(thoſe two paſſions commonly go-
ing together) return'd him ma-
ny thanks, and told him, that ſo
ſoon as his Wife were ready, they
would both wait on him in his Cham-
er, and that he would go in, to awak-
en her, *Le Noble* deſired him to for-

bear;

bear, telling him it was yet early enough, that it was the Coaches Cuſtome, alwaies to call two hours for their Paſſengers before their Horſes were ready, and that peradventure ſhe had not ſlept well that night, he made anſwer, that to his knowledge, ſhe had ſlept all night like a Town Top, and not ſo much as ſtirr'd, with that he retires into his Chamber, and *Le Noble*, goes down ſtairs into the Kitching, to be-ſpeak a breakfaſt, ſo returning to his Chamber again, he found his Chamber fellow riſing, having bid him good morrow, he return'd him thanks for his kindneſs, when he was deſtitute of a bed, after ſome more Complements of the ſame nature, according to the French cuſtome, what ſhall we have for breakfaſt, ſayes the Gentleman. Sir, replyed *Le Noble*, I have juſt now taken care for that, and I hope, you will pleaſe to accept of a bit with me, and thoſe perſons that lye in the next Room: After the thanks return'd, their diſcourſe, while they were dreſſing, was upon the accident that had fallen out that night

night by fire, which might have been of very evil consequence, near so many stables, had it not been so happily prevented, with that they reflected on an hundred accidents that are apt to befal Travellers, not only in their Inns, but on the Rode also, to which was added the churlish and dogged humours of Coachmen; and they concluded, with the unreasonableness of the Hosts in their reckoning.

By this time they were ready, and *Le Noble* hearing the Gentlewomans voyce, after the French airy manner which he had naturally, *Bonjour, Bonjour, Madamoiselle*, sayes he aloud, what is it not breakfast time with you yet? I fear you have not had a good nights rest, continued he, you speak so faintly this morning, to which she answered, that she never had a more pleasant night, and such rest as she wish'd she might enjoy often, which she believ'd was caus'd partly by her sitting up late, and the satisfaction which she had last night in his agreeable conversation, for proof whereof, she was

almost

almost dress'd, and ready to take a good share of that breakfast, which her Husband had inform'd her that he had invited them unto. By that, both the Companies being ready, they met in the passage, where they renew'd their discourse, in a pleasant way of raillery upon the last nights accident, and the disorder it would have set them all in, had it continued longer, every one giving his sense upon it, according to his fancy, with this a Servant comes up, to know where they would have the Cloath laid, they not agreeing in whose Chamber, they all went down into the Parler, where they found their breakfast waiting for them, presently they fell to it, and forks being wanting, the Gentlewoman desired her Husband to fetch down hers and her Spoon, which she commonly carryed with her, when she Travell'd, which the Husband did accordingly, they had in that Interval, a little more leasure to contemplate one another, by day light, though amorous glances, had not been wanting between them, all the while before, some blushes, which

the

the remembrance of their nights conversation rais'd upon the Ladies Cheeks, added much grace to her natural beauty, so that our Traveller, was infinitely taken with it, presently the Husband returnes, and they fell to eat, with as good an appetite as Travellers use to have: one of the questions, amongst their other discourse, was which way each person did Travel, by the answers, *Le Noble* finding that he should soon be oblig'd to part from his dear bed-fellow said, I am extreamly sorry, that I must part so soon from so good a bed-fellow, as I have had to night, to whom I must remain infinitely obliged for his kind reception of me in the bed, when I was destitute of one, all the hopes that I have to requite it, is by being inform'd where I might have the happiness to kiss his hands hereafters, that, reply'd the Lady, is so small a kindness, as I believe the Gentleman will hardly refuse; yea, Madam, reply'd the Gentleman, he may command me in things of greater consequence, he now giving me the advantage, in the hopes

of

of injoying hereafter, more of his gay humour, as *Le Noble* was going to reply, the Lady ſaid in a merry accent, juſt ſo would I have anſwer'd, I'le aſſure you, Sir, onely with this addition, that though there were never ſo many beds empty, he ſhould afford me the pleaſure of his Company in bed with me, the good Husband, who all this while had laid about him, ſo that he could not ſpare time to ſpeak one word, then ſaid, you are very forward Wife; if you would have anſwer'd ſo, 'tis like that this Gentleman, would not be of your humour, except he were of your Sex alſo, and therefore you might have left out that Clauſe, though the Husbands words had been meant of this Gentleman, yet *Le Noble* took upon him, to anſwer thus, ſince that by this ſmall interview, we may have ſome knowledge of one another, we may hereafter prove very good bed-fellows, and recompence the time we loſt this night, Sir, I could anſwer you again, though you did not addreſs your diſcourſe to me, but that I have a Husband, of ſo ſtrange a humour, that I

must

must not speak. Pray, speak your belly full, reply'd the Husband, I'le not hinder you, but why should you undertake to speak another person's conceptions? *Le Noble*, to break off their Jarring, began a good health to the Company, and presently after the Coachman came in to tell them that he was ready: This made them all rise and prepare to be going, but *Le Noble* desirous to prolong the time so long as he could, gave the Coachman something in private, and bad him go drink a pot of Wine upon his score: This made him tractable for one half hour longer then he otherwise would have been. Mean time the Husband and the Gentleman were gone to get their things in readiness, which gave *Le Noble* some time to speak in private to his bed-fellow. Madam, said he, shall I not be made so happy, as to know where I may hereafter have the happiness to kiss your hands, and assure you of the continuation of my most humble services? Yes, Sir, reply'd the Lady, and to let you see, that I am as desirous of seeing you

where; pray Sir accept of these Tablets, which will inform you at leasure, with that she pulling a Table-book from her pocket, at which there was fastened a Diamond Ring, she presented it to him in a most obliging manner; adding that she would guess at the esteem he had for her by his dilligence in rendering her a visit: *Le Noble*, was going to reply, when the Husband came in followed by a Servant that carried the baggage, this broke off their discourse, and the Gentlewoman went to see whether her Husband had left any thing behind. The Coachmans bawling did presently bring her back again, and *Le Noble* waiting on her to the Coach, took leave of her, of her Husband, and of the other Gentleman also, leaving them going towards *Paris*, and he presently after, taking horse for *Gisors*.

He had not patience to stay till having time to look on the present which he had received from his kind bed-fellow at parting, but as he was upon the Road he pulls the Tablets out,

of his Pocket, in which he found in every leafe nothing but *Lauretta* on it all over, except one leafe which had on one side this writ,

When on these Tablets you my name do find,
Those favours you received, bear in your mind,
And let this Ring, when on your finger worne.
Bring in your thoughts, what lately you have sworn, To yours Lauretta.

And on the other side of the same leafe he found this writ.

If ever you think me worthy of a visit, come to the next door of the three *Kings*, in *Mercers* street at *Lyons*, where you will find me continually regreting the Long absence of my most dear bedfellow with all the sorrow imaginable.

Having read this he wondred that so much should be pen'd in so little time, not knowing when she could have done it: Which he concluded must of necessity be that which she commonly us'd to employ every morning in her devotions; having unty'd the Ring, he put it on his finger, with some

some thoughts to be further acquainted with the Lady after his return to *Paris*. And then his dear *Susetta* coming in his mind, that diverted him from any further thoughts of the Lady for the present.

The impatiency to be at his journies end made him hasten to his horse, on which being got he that day came to *Giffors*, where having found out the signe of the Golden *Key*, he asked there after a certain Gentlewoman who had sent to him to meet her there. The Master of the Inn made answer, that there had been a Gentleman there, that had been gone from thence two dayes since, and had left a Letter to be delivered to a Gentleman that should come to inquire after a Woman, that by the Character the Gentleman had left, it could be none but him, and so gave *Le Noble* a Letter, in which he found what followes,

DEar, Sir, a business of importance forcing me hence, at an hours warning, is the cause I have not waited here, till you came. But I hope you will

not refuse, after your long journey, to ride half a dozen Miles further, where most certainly you will find, your most infinitely obliged Servant.

S.

And casting his eye a little lower he found this postcript.

I hope you know the Character so well as to be satisfied with one letter, for the whole name. Ask at the Inn for one Megerlain *who shall be your Guide, make what hast you can, the business requires it.*

He needed no more to hasten his departure, and having got the fellow ready, they set forwards.

They were not half a mile out of Town; when *Le Noble* Guide met with one he knew, that was riding with all speed to the Town for a Notary to make his Masters Will, who was near death.

This Tale set the Guide into such a fit of Crying and sobbing, that *Le Noble* could not forbear asking him what the Devil he ayl'd? Ah! Sir, reply'd the fellow, he was the best Master

Master that ever whipt Shool-boy, or taught fooling: then howling again as if he were at an Irish funeral, methinks I see him still, continued he, how he would call to me, *Mageri.ain* go fetch me three Eggs (Oh, he lov'd them dearly) boyl them for my breakfast, and when I have done with them, thou shalt have the remainder to make thee some scollards Eggs for thy dinner. But now he's gone, and I shall be no more call'd to look his head, Ah! that head, that head in which so many fine things were Cubbord up, well but he's gone, or at least just going. *Le Noble* weary of this fellows impertinent passion, bid him hold his peace, that surely he was not dead yet, or that a Notary had not been sent for. Ah, Sir, reply'd the fellow, you are come too late, I fear, that it may well be said of you, after death the Physitian, my Master must be dead, or he would never have sent for a Notary, he lov'd his money too well, to my knowledge, to make his Will before he were certain that he were dead, especially when he knew

that so rare a Physitian as you was on the way to visit him, I am sure you had been welcome, you that are the charitable Doctor, who take no money of any body. And He lov'd those kind of good persons, that would not be greedily Bawling after their Fees, were they Lawyers, Physitians, or of any profession, but he is gone, and the young Gentleman that I left with him, has sent for you in vain, well it is done, and when grim death as once said I'le have thee, 'tis in vain to cry, hold Coachman: for you know, Sir, needs must go that the Devil drives, as the Proverb saies, and as another learned saying of his was, the Devil take the hindmost, he is gone and we must follow after him. Thus running his divisions so fast, that *Le Noble* had not time to put in a word, at last they came to the place, where *Le Noble* was brought into a Chamber, in which presently after, a young Gentleman came, who having shut the door after him, running to *Le Noble*, and flinging himself about his neck. Take

your

your *Susetta* said he, Sir, by this you have deserv'd her: At this *Le Noble* steping back, so soon as as he was freed of the embraces, knew presently that it was his dear *Susetta*, in mans apparel, with that renewing their embraces and carresses, after a pause, *Susetta* told him that he was presently to appear very grave, and act the part of a Physitian, that she had no time to give him further Instructions at present, but desired him to follow her, where that he would be suddenly inform'd; with that they both went from that room to the sick mans Chamber, where there was no other light, but what a farthing watch Candle did afford, so that *Le Noble* was some time before he could make use of his eye sight. At last *Susetta* having brought *Le Noble* to the bedside, and convey'd his hand upon the sickmans arm, I pray, Sir, said she, feel his Pulse, and tell me what hopes I may have, and as you ever were my very good friend, be pleas'd to use the best of your skill, for the recovery of my dear Uncle, who I

aſſure you, I ſhall not long ſurvive, if it is decreed he muſt now dye, with that ſhe ſeem'd to weep moſt bitterly. The poor ſick Creature, after he had clear'd his Throat of ſome troubleſome Phlegm; which barricadoed up his ſpeech, ſpoke in a low voice as follows: my Dear heart, I charge thee by our Loves, and by that power, I ſhould have had over thee, if it had pleas'd the Heavens to have let me live, that thou grieve not for me, I die contented now that I am aſſured of thy real affections, but I beg of thee, that thou wouldſt live to enjoy all that I have, which I leave thee, I find it is too late, to wait for a Notary, therefore all you that are preſent here, take notice, continued he, with a loud voice, that I give all that I have to this perſon my Nephew, unto whom I give theſe my Keys, and I here in the preſence of you all, declare her my heir, with that he reached forth his arm to *Suſetta*, and dropt a bunch of Keys into her hand, and there panting a while, for a little breath,

they

they could hear ſome of thoſe perſons that were in the Chamber ſay, now for certain he is going, for he raves, and takes his kinſman for a woman, alaſs, poor man, peace be with his ſoul, a while after he thus began again, if there is any body in this houſe that can write, let them ſet down what I have ſaid, and I will ſigne it, as well as I can, and let all thoſe that have heard me, and that ſhall ſee me ſigne it, witneſs it with their hands; then after another little pauſe, *Suſetta*, ſayes he, give me thy hand, *Suſetta* having laid her hand into his, when I am gone, remember me, and pray, whoſoever writes my Will, let him make haſt, for I have not long to ſtay I find: *Suſetta* held her handkercheif before her eyes all this while, as if ſhe wept, and forcing a ſob from her breaſt, ſigh not, nor grieve for me ſaid the ſick man; by this time *Le Noble*, who had taken upon him to write the will, had made an end, it was preſently brought to the dying man with a pen and ink, who had no ſooner ſet his hand to it, but turning

on one side, cryed farewel *Suſ.* and ſo gave up the Ghoſt, preſently there was a whining cry in the room, which *Le Noble* did immediately interrupt, by preſenting to each of them the Will, to ſet their marks to, for there was not one could read nor write, but the Prieſt, who having officiated to the ſick man in the morning was gone; preſently after *Le Noble* and *Suſetta* were forced to go into another room, to be out of the hideous noiſe, that *Magerlain* was making for the Death of his Maſter: *Suſetta* gave order for all things for his burial, which was performed the next day, after which all the perſons of the houſe, acknowledging her as a Nephew and heir to the deceas'd, they apply'd themſelves to her for their payments, and *Suſetta* having that day diſcharged the houſe alſo ſhe gave unto *Megerlain* all that was his Maſters, which was of no great conſequence, and ſo diſmiſs'd him, reſerving to her ſelf one little Trunk in which ſhe had locked up all the writings, the mony that was left and ſome other things of

value.

value which they caus'd to be convey'd to the next Market Town towards *Paris*, where they followed immediately after.

Here they began to breath, to congratulate one another, and renew their Careſſes, *Le Noble* ſaying to *Suſetta* that by his diligence he had made to obey her at the firſt ſummons he hoped ſhe was convinced of his affections to her, and aſſured her, that all he had proteſted was real, of which he would give her further proofs, when ever ſhe ſhould deſire it, my dear *Le Noble*, reply'd *Suſetta*, I am ſo well ſatisfied in all reſpects, that I give my ſelf wholly up to you, to do what you pleaſe with me, one thing I ſhall only deſire of you; *Le Noble*, having asked her what it was, ſhe made anſwer, that ſhe beg'd of him, that he would continue his love to her, and not forſake her. Nay, if you begin to Article once, reply'd *Le Noble* merrily, let me make one alſo, and that ſhall be, that as you deſire I ſhould alwayes continue in my affections to you, which I grant you, you

should never talk of that formal thing call'd Marriage,, which you must grant me; tis done, answer'd *Susetta*, and add to this continued she, that all our goods shall be in common; done said *Le Noble*, and let me add, continued he, that we shall inseparably live together, and run the same fortune; done said, *Susetta*, and I will conclude with this that we may not be bedfellows till we arrive at *Paris*, where I will dress me like a bride, to appear the more agreeably to you; mean time I shall be contented with these womens course dress; both cry'd *Amen*, and having interchangably seal'd those Articles, with kisses upon their Checks, lips, and hands; now my dear *LeNoble*, said *Susetta*, I do present thee here with all that I am Mistress of, and all that thou canst command from her, who is thy most affectionate Mistress *Susetta*, with that she pull'd a great silk Purse out of her pocket, and having given it him, here take all, continued she, my self and all, so giving it him, she set her self in his lap, and flung her armes about him, after *Le Noble* had given her a thou-

sand

sand kisses, and as many embraces, she saying she came not emptyhanded to him, and that she had reserv'd nothing to her own particular use; but the Ring he had given her, as the first pledge of his affections; I should take it ill of thee, *Susetta*, said he, if thou shouldst part with that on any terms; but let me see, what thou hast given me here, 'tis very heavy? Nay 'tis worth your perusal, I assure you, said *Susetta*, with that *Le Noble* Empties the Purse into his Hat, which he found was fill'd with Gold and a very little silver with it, amongst which was *Matthew Clods* Ring. This Gold I would have you keep against a pinch, the Silver said *Susetta* will help to serve our present occasions, and it comes very seasonably. I'le assure thee Girl, said *Le Noble*, for I have been extravagant since I see thee last; hold said she, first let me give full informations, and then I will have an account of the time you have spent in *Paris* since you left me, here is a hundred and fifty Pistols, continued she, and these

these papers are Bills of Exchange upon sight for eight hundred more, besides half an years interest, which will be due, by that time we get to *Paris*? How Eight hundred, said *Le Noble*, nine hundred and fifty, besides the Silver, the interest, and this Diamond Ring? thou art a Queen? Prithy, what shall we do with all this money? Even be merry, make much of our selves, and love one another, reply'd *Susetta*: thou hast surpris'd me, said *Le Noble*, but I prithy now give me a full account, how thou cameſt by all this, I know that thy deceased gallant did give it thee in his Will and Testament, thou hast likewise inform'd me of some other particulars: But I beg of thee while we rest our selves here, that thou wouldst give me a full account of thy Life, and to induce her the more to it, he told her of his strange adventures at *Paris* and upon the Rode, with his odd Mascarading, which highly pleas'd her humour, being always very much taken with any thing that was rare and singular: after

which

which, he having once more desired the Relation of her Story, she thus began.

The History of SUSETTA.

I was born some eighteen years since in the City of *Roan* in *Normandy*, my Father was a Priest, who having a pritty young woman to his house servant, he took a fancy to to her, and so between them I was Got, my Mother some time after I came into the World, took the pains to go out of it; and the goodman, my Father, what with sorrow for the loss of his dear *Susanna* (so was my Mother call'd) and partly to take away all occasions of talk, which had been but too loud amongst the neighbourhood concerning them two, he took to him a good old woman, who has ever since serv'd to look to his house, and dress his Meat; I was baptised *Susetta*, in remembrance of my Mother, and presently after sent to *Cane*, to be Nurs'd up by a Sister of my Fathers, who took a special care of me, according to the orders she had receiv'd from the good Priest,

&c

he had a singular love for me, I being the only Child that he ever had, though some are of another opinion, who say, that the good Priest, not being able to give my Mother as much as she expected, she call'd a Gentleman to the assistance, who took the pains to make me: But let that pass, the good Priest being pleas'd to own me for his Daughter, in gratitude I must acknowledge him for my Father. I was not quite seven years old, when being impatient to live any longer without the continual sight of me, sent for me home, he did express all the kindness imaginable to me, and when I was grown up to it, let me to learn all the pritty things and Exercises that young Maids use, and ever after, passing all over *Roan* for his Sisters Daughter, I call'd him my Uncle and he me his Neece: Before I was quite fifteen, I had appear'd agreeable in the Eyes of divers persons, whom would fain have been nibbling. But the good man, who ever carried a watchful eye over me, would put them all by; some he

he thought too wild, others too rich, some again too poor, and others too sober; yet guessing by himself, and my Mothers constitutions of what temper I might be, and remembring that Cat will to kind, he endeavour'd to find out a fit match to rid his hands of me, so soon as he could, knowing that a Maid at fifteen is the most difficult thing in the World to be kept, resolving if he once met with a man to his mind, to bestow me upon him, with that he had gathered, during his forty years service in the Church. Amongst the rest of my Suiters, for I had many and of all sorts, there was one that the good man did approve of; he was an ill bred Chip of an rough hewen block: And doubtless, directly descended from the ancient family of the Clowns, and nearly allied to that of the *Le Fooles*: But he was very rich, and a thriving man, and consequently esteem'd a very fit match for me, by my good Unkle, who did not consider that it was very reasonable if he would cut that I should choose, however I was of

that

that mind, and I behav'd my self accordingly: At that time, there was also upon the ranks my lately deceas'd Lover, who stood stoutly in Competition with my Clown, for though the last was prefer'd; yet the Old man did admit of him also, to the exclusion of all other pretenders.

He was a Scotchman by Birth, a Shirk by Education, a Pedant by Profession, a Beast in manners, and a Knave by nature. His Parents it was thought were a Merchant, such a one as I have been told, Sell Cloth up and down the streets in *England*, and a Trul, that a Tinker had cast off, for her two inseparable qualities, incontinency and drunkenness, was his Mother, his name was *Sawndy*. But, as once he told me for brevity sake, he was call'd *Bar-tho-lo-me-w*. From an under-Usher that taught boyes to spell, he had in twenty eight years time attained to the Supremacy of a Writing-School. And through his miserable Covetousness, and hard Griping, and half starving of his Boarders, he had scrap'd together

all

all that we are now owners of.

Now I have given you an exact account of my two Lovers, give me leave to acquaint you with their manner of woeing also.

My Clown, who was of a bashful nature, would frequently sit half a day by me, and not speak a word; and for fear I should divert him from that agreeable silence, neither would I say any thing to him, nor so much as look towards him, though his eyes were continually fixed upon me.

On a day, after he had sate some four hours before me, at a pritty distance; at last his Hat drope at his feet, he being fast asleep; I seeing that, went softly out of the Room, and locked the door after me, for I was not so hard hearted as to awaken him from so sweet a sleep, as some other more unkind would have done. But on the contrary, making the least noise I could, I retired, and there I left him enjoying his agreeable dreams, and went my wayes with the Key of the Room, to pass the Evening with a young

she

ſhe companion of mine, our very neare neighbour: We were ſitting very attentively at our works, when there came in a couple more of young Maidens with an intention to be merry, while every one was asking, what we ſhould do, and how we ſhould paſs away our time: It came into my head that my ſleeping Gallant, who I had left without fire or Candle, might be a fit ſubject for our nights recreation, with that I caſt about within me, how I ſhould contrive it, and having thought on ſomething, I propos'd to the reſt, that if they would joyn with me in a deſign I had, it would afford them ſufficiency of Mirth, for to paſs that Evening away, at the coſt of one of my Lovers, who I had lockt up in a Chamber, where he was fallen aſleep.

Thoſe three mad Wenches that lov'd roguery as well as I did, that is with all their hearts, did preſently embrace the propoſition, and every one lent their invention to the compoſing of this frolick. By good for-

fortune, the good Priest my Unkle, being gone Supper to a friends house, we had more liberty and conveniency to act our Sport, therefore we presently went all to our house, taking along with us an overgrown Baboon, that was very tame and gentle, and a Cat also; we got all into a Parlour joyning the Room my Lover was in, whence we could hear him snore as if for a wager, having got all things that was thought necessary to carry our design in a readiness, we begun to prepare. Two of my Companions were dressing the Baboon all in white fixing a Candle in his head, while my other Comrade and my self, were fastening of Walnut shells, on the Cats Claws with Pitch, rubbing her backside with Ginger, and setting a paper Ruff about her neck. This done, I went to open the door, while the others brought with them the Baboon and the Cat, they were presently let loose in the sleepers Room, after we had placed a piece of small flaring Candle in one of the Corners of the Chimney, which gave but a very

small

small light, the door being shut again, we stood at the Window with out, as much conceal'd as we could in expectation of the event, we had no sooner posted our selves, but we heard a most fearful rattling, which the Baboon made running after the Cat, out Chears, Tables, Cupboards, and all things in the Room, dragging his long Chain after him, with a most hideous noise, and the Cat did make such slidings upon the boards, when she would endeavour to shun the Baboon, as were very pleasant, and sometimes leaping against the hangings to get out of the enemies reach, it would make such an odd kind of noise, when it fell down again upon the Nut shells, that it presently awakened my poor slumbering Lover. But had you seen him, when yet between sleep and wake, he did but half discern, through the dim light in the Chimney (for that upon the Baboons head was extinguisht) what a fear seiz'd him, you would have laught your fill, he stair'd, his Haire stood an end, his Face as pale as ashes, and all his

Limbs

Limbs as stiff, as if he had been frozen to death. But at last, the Cat being hard put to it, and forc'd for its safety to leap into the Lovers lap, the Baboon got immediately after it upon his shoulders, still as he run round after the Cat, winding his Chain about this poor Lovers neck, and then on a sudden giving it a twich as he was jumping down after the Cat, that had chang'd her quarters, he pull'd the Lover down after him, all along upon the ground tugging with all his strength to get loose, and our Lover holding the Chain, with both his hands to prevent strangling, who at last cryed out, good sweet Master Devil, forgive me this time and let me loose again, and if ever I offer to think or dream of woman again, you shall do with me what you please, while he was with these and such like humble applications, begging of the Devil for Life, the Baboon by force and violent struggling, having broke his Chain retir'd to the Corner of the Chimney near the Candle, and our

Lover thinking that the Devil had done this at his request, took the boldness to sit up, and then turning upon his knees, still having the Chain about his neck, he return'd his Devilship his most humble thanks for his kind desisting from tormenting him, promising him faithfully that if he ever he got on earth again, he would never think more of Mistress *Susetta*, for whom he did believe all this evil had befallen him, which was the more excusable in him added he, by reason that it was not of his own seeking, but of her Unkles, who would not let him be quiet, but still put him on to make Love to his Neece, thus was he going on with his excuses to his suppos'd Devil, when the Baboon having perceiv'd the Cat behind our Lover, made towards him with a great deal of eagerness; the Cat who had found that place its best refuge, being loth to quit that post, so advantagious to him, did dodge round our Lover, and his Adversary after him, which set our Lover in such a fright,

night, that he run up and down the Room over all he met in his way, and crying out murther, Devils, help, as loud as he could roar, tumbling in the dark over Chairs and Stools, till at last being quite spent, he fell down on a sudden, crying out that he was dead.

That word, and we seeing him lie without motion, did set us all in some apprehension that the fool might die with fear: Therefore I went and open'd the door where he lay, and presently we stole all away, to give him leave to do so likewise. The door of the Chamber had not been long open, when the Cat run out of it into the Yard, from whence she crept into a small hole, where the Baboon, who had followed her close at the Heels, was forc'd to leave off his Chase, the noise that those two Creatures had made in the Yard, having been heard by the old woman (who had not heard any thing of that, which had been made in the Chamber, because it was at a further distance, and the door and Windows shut) made haste down stairs, to see what

was the matter, at which we all ran out of the house, into that from whence we came, and the Baboon after us: As we pass'd by the Window, we hear'd our poor Lover groan, and say, I wonder whether I am dead or no, this set us out of fears, so that we went, and sate us down upon a bench, that was before our neighbours door, laughing most heartily at the trick we had put upon my Lover, which, I hope, would deter him from e're coming more near our door.

We had but just undress'd the Baboon and let him in, when my Uncle came by from his Company, with whom he had supp'd and drank'd so plentifully, that he pass'd by and did not know me. But went into his house and pull'd the door after him; being come into the Yard he over heard this Dialogue, which pass'd between the Lover and the Old woman, which I also heard hearkening at the Window of the street.

The Old woman, who had been searching about to know what was the cause of that noise, was come at last to

the

the Chamber door, where our Lover lay on the floor, in the dark, amongst a company of tumbled Chairs, Stools, Cushions, and Carpets: She having heard him fetch a deep sigh, *Jesu Maria*, whose there, said she; our Lover hearing a humane voyce, with such a pious van-guard to its interrogation, he pluck'd up a little heart, and thus made answer, *Pater Noster*, it is I, and who in the name of all the she Saints in Heaven are you, continued the woman; in the Name of all the he Saints on Earth, I am *Mathew Cloid*, that have been tormented in Hell all this Night, by two furious Devils, which have but very lately left me, in a most sad pickle, for Heavens sake continued he, say all the *Kyry's*, you know, and all the *Aves* for my soul, for though I think this place is too cold to be Hell, yet I believe I am in purgatory: in Purgatory, reply'd the Old woman, Heavens forbid that my Masters house were a Purgotary, why do you not see that you are in the very Room, in which you use to make Love to one *Susetta*. Oh speak not a

word more of that I beseech you, reply'd my Lover, least that the Devils return and torment me again. Why sure, you are mad said the woman, so coming nearer him with the Candle, the tippled Priest, mean time, stole up to his Chamber with an intention to clear his house from those evil spirits. The old woman having seen what a confusion was in the room, and beheld poor *Matthews* face all bloody. I think the Devils have been here indeed, said she, Lord what a stink they have left behind them? But in the name of wonder, how came you here, at this time o'th' night? Why truly reply'd *Matthew*, all that I know of it is, that I being fast asleep in bed at home, the Devils have drag'd me hither with this Chain about my neck, and having brought me into this dark room, where I use to gaze on *Susetta*, these cruel Devils, or Spirits, I know not which, but one of the two I am sure of, have set me in this pickle, and all the things thus confusedly scattered about the room. But now you talk of our *Susetta* where is she, said the

old woman; pray Heaven ſhe be ſafe, at this the Cat with the Wallnut ſhels having been diſturb'd from its reſt by the Prieſt, who took it for a Devil by the noiſe it made, and the ruffabout its neck, came for refuge into that room again, at which poor *Mathew*, more affrighted than ever, cry'd out as loud as ever he could, the Devil is come again, the old woman hearing and ſeeing the Cat in that dreſs, in her fright took it for no leſs then an Imp, which made her run haſtily out of the Chamber, juſt as her Maſter was running into it, in purſuit of the Cat, they run ſo furiouſly againſt one another, that they both threw themſelves backwards upon the floor; the poor woman with her fright and her fall, was in a ſound, and the poor Prieſt very much indamag'd, but he being pot valliant, and by good fortune his hollowed Candle, which he had in his hand having kept lighted, beſides all his holy attire, the holy water, the Croſs, and the book of Exorciſm, which he had about him, in which things he put great confi-

dence; all these things, I say, did highly insence him against those evils Spirits that did haunt his house, he hastily arose to proceed forward, the Priest being got into the Room, and having beheld all this confusion, he began his Exorcism. The old woman lying all this while on her back, with her Cloaths half up, the Candle in her hand, *Matthew* taking the Priest for an Illusion crying out, Murther, the Devils, more Spirits come to torment me, not once daring to move from within the middle of the Chair frame, where he was got, I having had my fill of laughing, I went to the door which I found but latcht, having got in, and advanced so far as the door of the Chamber, I receiv'd a good flap on the Chaps, which my Unkle gave me with his Holy water sprinkling, he assuredly taking me for another Spirit than I was, at this *Matthew* fell a roaring worse than ever, crying out? Oh, and is the chief Devil come hither also, now there's no hopes left, I am dead, I am dead, and so lay groning: by this time the Priest was mumbling

ling of his Charmes, and now and then throwing of hollowed water at me, I adventured to ask him what was the matter, making my self the greatest stranger to all this that could be, he continued his muttering without answerings, I had a good mind once to to have pull'd him by the Arm, but then again I durst not, when I remembred the blow he had given me, least I should bring some further mischief upon my self; I perceiving that I could do no good there, I came to the old woman again, I took her up, and assured her, that I was no Apparition, but the most real *Safeta*, at last I perswaded her to go up with me in my Chamber, where after I had told her, that all this confusion had happened through a trick, that I and some of my Companions had put on *Matthew*, she having put me to bed, went down staires again, to undeceive the rest.

She found them in the same posture that we had left them in, so soon as she came near my Unkle he besprinkled her with holy water, of which he was very lavish, at which she said to

him come, come, 'tis time to leave off your Conjurings, and you (turning towards *Matthew*) your folly, you may even thank that unlucky patch *Jaffets* for all this, he it was, that brought in all those Devils which have so affrighted you both, to which the Priest with a deal of wrath and indignation, made this reply avoyd thou Satanness, that woulds delude me, and this poor miserable possessed wretch, pointing at *Matthew*, I know thou art a deluding Devil, and I will send thee from me, with that he flung all the holy water he had left, in the old womans face, which she took so ill from him, that saying the Devil take you both, she went her wayes and came not near them all that night.

What the Priest, and his distressed lover did after, that I could never learn, but the next morning, the old woman and I rising early, we went down to see what was become of them, we found them both fast asleep, my Umkle in a Chair, and *Matthew* in the same posture we had left him, we awakened

wakened the good man, who was almoſt ſtarv'd with cold, he at firſt wondred where he was, and told us that he had had a very ſtrange dream, which he would tell us at ſome other time, but now he was ſo cold and ſleepy that he would go to bed, he Chid us both for letting him fall a ſleep in a Chair in ſo cold a place, and ſo away he went: but firſt you muſt know that while he ſlept we had diveſted him of all his Church Ornaments, and had laid them out of the way, and ſet all things elſe in their right places, except *Matthew*, who was in a Corner of the Room, wedged in the frame of the Chair that he could not be got out.

While I was getting the good man to bed, I told him, that when he ſhould wake again, I would give him an account of that dream he ſpoke of, at which having anſwer'd, that I was a fooliſh Girl, turn'd himſelf to ſleep. During the time I had employed my ſelf in laying the good Prieſt to bed: The Old woman had awakened *Matthew*, and with much ado got him out of

the frame of the Chair, and having delivered him of the Chain that was about his neck, ſhe was comforting him, and endeavouring, as well as ſhe could, to perſwade him of the truth of the buſineſs, but he ſtill perſiſted in the belief, that all he had ſeen was real, while they two were thus arguing the caſe, ſome body knockt at the fore door, I went to ſee who it was, and I found it to be one of *Mathews* Fathers Plowmen, that was come to inquire after *Mathew*, who he ſaid had not come home all night, I made him no other anſwer then that he ſhould go into the yard, and turn into the Room on his right hand, which he did; I durſt not appear, for fear of ſetting the fool into ſome new fit, which would have made us been the longer troubled with him, and I car'd not how ſoon we were quit of him, *Mathew* was very glad to ſee *Chuch* ſo near him, who told him that his Father had ſent him to ſeek after him, who was much troubled at his abſence, and that he was very glad to have found him in ſo good a place.

In

I think you have all ploted to make me mad, said *Matthew*, why, was not I at home, and in my own bed last night? No truly, reply'd *Clunch*, there was no body in all our house that did see you last night there, and, no doubt but you would hardly a gone to bed without your Supper, besides I shut all the doors at ten of the clock, and I am sure that then you were not come home; well, reply'd *Matthew*, say what you will, and do what you will, but I know what I know, and feel what I feel, and think what I think, and I shall tell, my Father another story when I get home, and so I'le be gone, then shaking his head, and leaning upon *Clunch* his shoulder, and dragging his legs after him, Good boy, continued he, I am going, but if ever you catch me here again, let all the Devils that tormented me last night, torment me ten thousand times more, I that hearkened to him all that while, got out of the way, that I might not be a new obstacle to his going, so away went he, and his man *Clunch* together, and

from

from that time I never did see him more.

When my Father was awake again the old woman and I were very busie in perswading him, that all which he had seen and done were real, but he would have it all a dream, and seeing, that do what we could, we could not perswade him to the contrary, and that he began to be angry, thinking we play'd too long upon him; we left him in his own opinion, and so there was no more of that business talk'd of, at that time.

How my Father and my poor Lover did make up the business between them, the next time they saw one another, I know not, but thus much I can tell you, that by this roguery of mine, I was for a long time freed from all manner of importunities on that Fools account.

There remain'd still my Bony *Scot*, to whom I ow'd a good turn also, which I promised within my self to pay him so soon as I should have an opportunity to do it. the good success that I had so lately had with my other lovers

lover, did make me hope for as good a conclusion with this, but the former being more fool than knave, and this more knave then fool, I was to manage my self accordingly in my designes, which were easie to me, my natural inclination leading me alwayes to what was Roguish, and did continually furnish me with store of invention, which made me not be long before I had given my *Sir* a dish of my cooking, he having heard by some means or other, that my other Lover came not so frequnely to visit me as he had done formerly, he took the advantage of his absence, as all Rivalls do, to follow me close and endeavour to strike me up before his Rival were aware of it, to that purpose he one day sent me this Copy of verses, they were so ridiculous and impertinent, that with the often reading of them to make my self and my Companions sport, I got them by heart, thus they began.

For

For the trasiently Beautiful *Susan*.
This Poetical rapture, I've set my Muse on.

TRanscendently, sirnose, obstreperous Beauty.
Bartholomew your Servant, knows his duty.
He's too well known, to fail in the least point,
And wholly yours he is through every joynt.
Therefore he makes bold to Salute in Rhime
Your self gladly the Tree on which he'd climb,
The Font, in which he would water his Nag.
The Fort, on which he would display his Flag.
Your self, I say, who he would gladlier have
Then in Church-yard a fine new digg'd up Grave,
A broken shin, the Cramp, and the foul Squitter, (Butter.
Or what's worth all, a piece of bread and
For, for in you, that is in your self, sweet,
Fairness and wisdome in the Center meet;
You are Bellisick beyond Nell of Greece
Your Eyes are worth at least Six pence a piece.
You have a Timbrel full of witty wit,

Your

Are full of Grace, e'n when you cough or spit.
Your hands are lest then a shoulder of Mutton.
Your Feet and Legs are fit for Queen to strut on.
And I'd rather see you, then my own heart,
Through which y'ave made such a hole, that a Cart
Can scarce stop up the Gap, and I suppose,
If it sinks long, you'l find it in my Hose.
For your sweet sake I'le drown'd, burn, rot, stink, hang. (hang,
break leg, or arm, and my own dear sides
Therefore as you are fair, be gentle Lady,
To me your Seruiture, as much as may be
And since to you I have given my heart
When next we meet let's never, never part
You are my hope, my joy, my Sugar Candy,
And I am your egregious Seruant, Sawndy.

How do you like them? Were they not high screwd up, continued *Susette*: I never heard any thing more ridiculous and pleasant, in my Life, reply'd *Le Noble*, but thou hast a most happy memory, I find, in waggery: we alwayes keep in our mind, you know;

know, reply'd *Suſetta*, thoſe things we like: thou art a baggage ſaid *Le Noble*, well prithy go on, for I long to hear how thou ordereſt this whyning Lover, you ſhall not be long without it, reply'd *Suſetta*, as you ſhall hear; I took this advantage to return him thanks for his good opinion, which he expreſs'd he had of me, as I perceiv'd by his paſſionate verſes, and bid the boy, that had brought them, to tell him, that I ſhould be glad to ſee him oftner, that I might have the happineſs to enjoy the more of his agreeable converſation, not doubting but a perſon ſo full of Poetical fancy's and wit as he was, muſt needs be extraordinary pleaſant company, and that I would have him make uſe of his Rivals abſence, in whoſe room I did long to ſee him. This was enough one would have thought to have made ſo hot a Lover, loſe not a moment of time: But he was of another opinion, and having found by the anſwer, which the boy return'd him, what a progreſs his Poetry had made in my heart, as he thought, he

was.

was reſolv'd to regale me in proſe, before he would venture upon a viſit, thinking that one Letter more, would make me his aſſure as nothing more ſure: In this opinion he writ this Letter, which I receiv'd by the ſame Meſſenger ſome two dayes after, with that ſhe pull'd it out of her pocket, and gave it to *Le Noble* who found it thus.

To the ſuperlatively Supream Miſtreſs of my ſober affections, Mrs. *Suſetta.*

MAdam, *Super-excellent, and the Imperial Miſtreſs of my wondrous Paſſions, pardon that my Peripatetick ſelf, does moſt profoundly entreat the Mixtick reſults of the Melliferous influences of your, Loxogonoſpherical intuition, join your own Individual ſelf, and none but your moſt ſublimated Lady, are able to produce, this Anthonſiaſme, in your more then thrice ſubmiſſionate admirer, give me leave ſuper Mundane Lady to become a moſt deſpicable ſupplicant at the ſubtyſal of the pedeſtal of your more then*

thrice

thrice admirable structure, and pardon him who subscribes himself

Your slave, as far subterraneous to your pritty self, as a Mirmidonial insect to the Altitude of the most Elevated Star,

Sapondy alias *Bartholomew.*

There was never such a medly of Nonsence seen before, said *Le Noble*, having ended the Letter, I am glad I had it about me, said *Susetta*, I had taken it accidently with other Papers, when I made my escape from *Rome* or you had not now had that pleasure in reading it, nothing for certain can be more impertinent said *Le Noble*: But, dear Girl, deprive me no longer from hearing how thou didst order this Coxcomb, I am drawing towards it, reply'd *Susetta*: But first you must know, that I, having read this Letter, was resolv'd to bring him on, therefore I presently writ him word, that I was so well satisfied with the knowledge of his great parts both in Poetry and in Prose. That I

should.

should think the time very long, till I did see him, which I fear'd would be more difficult than I had imagin'd, by reason that I had heard my Tinkle exclaim very much against him that very day, but that in a very short time I would give him notice how he should come to me: that in the mean time, I desired him, to let me hear frequently from him, having sealed and directed my Letter, I sent it by this messenger.

The next day about three a Clock in the morning, it being very dark my Scot comes under my Chamber Window, and there having tun'd or rather untun'd an old broken Fiddle, he joyns his rank Voice to it, and Sang and scrap'd upon the Instrument those Verses, which he had sent me before to the Tune of

Arise, Arise, open the Window
Arise, Arise, for it is day, &c.

But it would have made you sick with laughing, had you but heard what pains he took and what stuff he made in the dismembring of them, to fit them to that tune, and to inch them sometimes

times with an A, at the end of a line; he was about the middle of his Song when some body, out of a neighbouring Window spoke to him, to leave off his Squeeking, because he did disturb the neighbour from sleep with his ungrateful noise, but he was too busie with his musick, to mind any thing else, so that having been admonish'd two or three times, to desist, he at last was rewarded with a Potful of stuff, that did not smell altogether so sweet as Musk, which did light so unluckily upon his instrument, though thrown at a venture, that it dash'd it all in peices, and bespatter'd all his face, his hairs and his cloathes, as I heard him complain, I having got to the window so soon as I had heard him threatned, in hopes to have some sport after he had made way to open his mouth, by wiping of his beard, (which he did alwayes were pretty long, out of Covetousness, though he would have it pass for gravity) he did revenge himself, by railing most bitterly against the actors of so foul a deed, with a world of threats of what he would.

would do, did he but know from which window it came, having thus vented his Choler. To shew his extempory wit, he thus took leave of me.

Susana sweet your poor Servant beguiled
By foul distress, is all to be defiled,
With Chamber pot not fill'd with sweet Essence,
But what is worse, with a Surreverence.
He Pardon begs for this his interruption,
And breaking off his Song, with such obruption
Has it was not his fault, he had proceeded,
And his late Instrument been better heeded;
Sweet Mistress Susan, *therefore pardon him,*
Whose heart is full of love up to the brim
And least you should not know who was that said it.
It was defil'd Sawndy, *the same that made it.*

This having been deliver'd in a most doleful manner, and whyning tone, because of the darkness which would not have permitted me to see his manners) he scrapt a leg so hard upon the stones, to make me hear, that the Nailes he had in his shooes in a

great

great number struck fire, at which he was so pleas'd, that he repeated his reverence several times over, and so departed. I having that night thought of a prank to play upon him the next morning, I sent him a letter to give him many thanks for his fine Mussick, in which I did take much delight, being at the Window listening after it, when that foul disaster had befallen him, for which I was very sorry, and that I did design to make him amends, that therefore I would have him come to our back door the following night, between one and two, where I should be ready to receive him.

Having sent this Letter seal'd up, I went to acquaint some of my Roguish Companions with my intentions, and invite them to take share of the mirth in which they were to assist me, for I wanted help, they who desired nothing more, did presently give me an assurance of their aid, the hour appointed being come, we all lay in ambuscade expecting his coming, we were not long before we heard him coming. Now you must know that

our

our house had a pretty long yard to it, at one end of which was the house we dwelt in, which went into a large street, and at the other end of the yard was a place where we kept fewel, and over it a Chamber, which by the smallness of the Window and the Iron bars about it, did speak it the reliques of some ancient place of devotion which had fallen to decay. Nothing remain'd standing but what I have now mentioned, he was no sooner come near the door, but I and three of my companions disguis'd like men seiz'd upon him and presently muffling of him we hurried him away as to prison, letting him understand by our discourses as we went, that he must be the person which we had order to secure. The darkness of the night favouring us as much as could be, we had him round out one street into another, at last came back again upon our steps, and presently we drove him up stairs before us, where having lockt the door upon him, there we left him in the dark all the way he had been very importunate to know his Crime, and

very

very diligent in perswading us that we took him for another, and that he had no other design that night, but to come to an assignation, which a Mistress of his had given him. To which we made no other answer, but that the person we had order to seize on, was to come by that very place, where we had seiz'd him, and at that very moment: that we thought it was for High Treason, and concluded, that if he was innocent, no doubt but he would be released, as soon as he should make it appear, that till then he was to have patience, and this was all he could get out of us, when we had laid him safe, my Comrades retired each to their own house, and I went to bed.

Now you must know that the room where we had pen'd up our Prisoner was commonly employ'd to keep Cheeses in, my Unkle usually letting it out for that purpose, but at that time it being in our own hands, there was nothing in it, but a little straw scatter'd up and down; there did our amorous Scot spend that night

no

no question with less satisfaction and contentment than he had promised to himself when he first set forth upon his amorous adventure. The next morning we of the Sisterhood of Roguery did meet, according to our appointment, and having debated what we should do with our Prisoner, we resolv'd on this, which we presently put in execution; we all got into the lower room, and there, as if we had met by chance in the street, we bid one another good morrow in under borrowed voices. Then we began to talk of marketing and of our Maid Servants, one said to another, that she had heard strange news abroad, to which another said, what concerning the great design that was lately discover'd? I suppose, said the third, that's all the Town talk, they say that there is a certain Scotchman in this prison here that had an hand in it. Yes, replied another in all likelihood, the world says, his Process is making ready, witnesses have been heard, and it is resolv'd that to-morrow morning, he is to be apply'd to

the Rack, to make him confess his complices, well for my part, said another, I do not pity him in the least, I would have all such disturbers of the publick quiet to be so serv'd? I wonder, said another, that great persons (as they must needs be that attempt such great businesses) should admit of such a pitiful scabby Rascal amongst them, as this sorry School-master is, who it is said is not worth a groat, I'le assure you that I have heard it otherwise, reply'd another, for some say, that he was innocent, but that some persons knowing that he has a great deal of money, they have accus'd him of being one of that plot, to make themselves Masters of all he has, and that it is to that purpose he is to be Rackt, that the torture and pain that he shall suffer, may make him say any thing to be quit of it, rather choosing to give away his Life, then to endure the Rack in ordinary and extraordinary, three times in four and twenty hours.

Here my poor Lover, that had most dil-

diligently hearkened at our discourse: not being able to hold any longer, broke out, into this doleful Lamentation: Yes, yes, there's the business: there's the knot of the business, that Gordian knot: that nothing but the Sword of Justice can undo: It is money, my money, that renders poor *Sawndy* guilty of all manner of Crimes, Oh! *Tempora*, Oh! *Mores*, what an Age do we live in, that a poor man cannot in all his life time get something to subsist with in his old Age, with all the care and penury, or industry imaginable. But he must presently be envied by some Courtier, who hearing that he has got some money, presently, through his power and authority, with the great ones, do reduce him to that extremity, I am in dow: Then with a great exclamation. The Rack! The double Rack! Oh Heavens! Continued he, well I am already resolv'd, they shall have all, all money and Life and all, rather than I'le endure such Torture, the very thoughts of which does burst my heart in sunder, then fetching a

great groan, we heard him fall upon the floor where he lay silent for a little while, after another groane he thus continued, Oh! my *Susetta*, my dearest dear, *Susetta* thou little thinks what's become of thy *Saundy*, who is detained here in fowl distress, while you may think it is his own neglect. Ah, that I could but let her know of this my sad adventure, if she could not assist me, yet she would pity me I am sure, and that would be some content in my death, Oh that she had all I am worth, that I might deceive those that so thirst after my blood for the love of my Money? Oh my poor heart, Oh what thirst do I endure, Ah! now I feel the truth of that Proverb, which sayes that sorrow is dry, and if the drought is proportionable to my sorrow, what could not I drink now, Oh, oh, and having given two or three groans more, he lay silent. By this time I thought that my poor Lover had had a sufficient Mortification, to allay in him all the pricks of the flesh, and rid men him at least for some considerable time

but being desirous that he should own his liberty to me alone, that I might the better intrap him again hereafter, if occasion were, I resolved to defer his deliverance till the next night about that hour that we had brought him in, with that we retired to have our fill with laughing, but didst thou not afford him a little drink all that while, said *Le Noble*? not one drop, nor crum of bread, reply'd *Susetta* Prisoner, for Treason are not to be dr'd so tenderly.

Sir you cannot imagine what an excellent thing is fasting, during twenty four hours, in order to a good appetite, why? thou art the mischievest Rogue, that ever I heard of, answered *Le Noble*, but prithy go on.

The hour being come, continued *Susetta*, I came to my lovers prison door with a dark Lanthorn, where after I had listened a while and heard him grone, sigh and sob, I call'd to him with a low voice, at which he said do I not hear my self call'd, then presently buffing up, I again call'd in the same low voice through the Key hole,

why *Swandy* my dear friend *Swandy*, wilt not answer thy dear *Susetta*, at that he came as fast as he could towards that place, where he thought the voice came, and there fumbling with his hands about the door, was it a dream or do I awake, said he, somewhat aloud, as being surpriz'd, with that I bid him speak softly if he would not have us both undone, and having assur'd him that I was there, I turn'd my Lanthorn, and opened the door and so came into him, telling him that he might judge of my love by the many hazards and dangers that I expos'd my self in for his sake, for to deliver him from those Torments which he was just going to endure, which would have no end but in death, and that I hop'd he would be sensible of this my kindness to him all his life time, he with a thousand Oaths and protestations, throwing himself at my feet, did assure me in his dialect that all he was Master of, he would make mine, which he would make good, as good as Law would make it so soon as he were at liberty, and past all dangers,

gers, this did he confirm with a thousand kisses upon my hands and feet, having bid him put on an old Riding-hood which I had brought with me on purpose that he might not be known as I pretended, with which I bid him cover all his face telling him that I would take care to conduct him, I grop'd my way down stairs, he following of me in the dark and having got into the street, he holding me by the Arm, I led him such another jaunt as he had had the night before, and coming round to our back door again, I bid him then shift for himself, that I durst not adventure any further with him, but would now retire. I bid him remember when once he had got into a safe place, to send me word where he was, and how he did, after his imprisonment, which he having promised to do, and reiterated again all his vowes, and promises, he went his way, and I to bed, with a design to give an account to my comrades in the morning, of what I had acted that night, the day after I was thinking what might become of my poor

Lover, when there came an Old woman, which brought me a small Note well seal'd, in which I found this writ.

This is (as in all duty I am bound a)
To let you know that I am safe and sound a,
Subscribed 'tis from my old habitation
By him that can't forget his late Salvation
Heaven blest King Queen, the Family Royal
And make me ever to my Susin Loyal.
S. A. S. Amen.

I inquired of the good woman how he did, who made me answer, that he was become very pensive ever since his late ramblings, and that no body could get from him where he had been. During his twenty four hours absence, neither would he be seen or spoken unto, that he had given her a special care to deliver that Note very privately into my own hands, with this the good woman sighing, I am afraid continued she, that he will fall suddainly very sick, or at least subtracted with melancholly.

I making as if I pity'd him much, and having desired the Old woman to remember me kindly to him, I dismissed her, with an assurance that I should be always glad to hear from him.

After this I had no news of my Scotish Love, till now of late by reason of the disorders that I fell in presently after, as follows.

The Priest my good Unkle and my other Lover *Mathew*, by what means, I know not, were pieced up again, as great as ever. Nay, it had gone so far between the Father, the Son, and the Unkle, that a Marriage was concluded upon, though without the consent of the Neece. One day my good Unkle being alone in his Chamber, did send for me to him, and to make short, after many admonitions and remonstrances did positively conclude that within a certain day, I should prepare to be *Mathew Clod*-wife, I seing that all the fair words and intreaties, that I made could not dissuade the Priest from this his resolution, I fell in a passion pro-

tell'd that I would run away, or de-
stroy my self, rather than to become
the Wife to such a Beast, and upon
that in great rage I went out of the
Old mans Chamber; my Uncle
knowing that I was commonly as
good as my word, in such matters,
resolv'd to prevent me, in going a-
nother way to work. Therefore
having sent his Old woman to call
me back again, he told me that he
had better considered of it, that he
would not force me against my incli-
nations, that he would give me a
longer time to resolve my self, and
hoped I should find in time the great
good and advantage, which was intend-
ed me in that Match. This did some-
thing appease me, and at least made
me not so hastily put in execution, what
I had deliberated within my self. But,
the old Fox prov'd that time too crafty
for the young one, for towards Even-
ing, the good Priest having call'd me
to him, gave me a Letter, to carry to a
certain Monastery of women, call'd *Le
Filles Repenties*, charging me to deliver
it into the Abbesses own hands, I went
to

to the Convent, inquired for the Mother Abeſſe, and gave her the Letter as I had been charged to do, ſo ſoon as ſhe had read it, looking upon me, ſhe bid me follow her, having brought me into a Parlour, ſhe call'd to her, two of the moſt grave women in the Company, here ſaid ſhe, to them, taking me by the hand: take this young Maiden into your ſafe cuſtody, and give me an account of her, when e're I call for it, I by this time ſeeing my ſelf trappan'd, I thought it was my beſt way to diſſemble, and with a chearful countenance, I told the Abbeſs that I was very glad, my Unkle had met ſo well with my own deſires, and that ſince it is impoſſible for me to marry a perſon that I could never Love, I thought my ſelf the moſt happieſt Creature in the World, to be diſpoſed of in ſo good hands, and that I ſhould think the time long till I had gone through my year of probation, that I might take the vow; this pleas'd the Matrons and both my Guardians very well, who hoped they ſhould not be much troubled in look-

ing

ing after me, since that my own inclinations led me to it; that very night my trunk and all things else belonging to me, were sent after me, with a Letter from my Uncle: In which there was Writ, that I had but two wayes to choose, either to resolve upon marrying of *Matthew Clod* within six dayes, or to live all the residue of my Life in that place; I told the Messengers, that was waiting for my answer, that since it was my Unkles pleasure to have it so. Now that I had better thought of it, I was resolv'd to obey him in all things, and that he should dispose of me as he pleas'd.

This unexpected answer, did so rejoyce the Old mans heart when he heard it, that the next day he sent me a very kind Letter, with five new Golden Leweses in it and a Diamond Ring, with which *Matthew Clod* had desired I should be presented. This I thought did work very well in order to my future design, and seeming very well contented; It got me the liberty of the Cloyster and the Garden. One day

day as I was walking towards Evening, with some of the Nuns in the Garden, perceiving a great Well with two large Buckets joyning to the Garden Wall, which was to furnish Water for the Garden; my curiosity did lead me to look into it, so that I went thither alone, and as I cast my eye in it, I saw a glimpse of a Candle, and heard some persons discoursing. That made me the more curious, a while after I did perceive that the Candle was advanced into the Cavity of the well, through a Window towards the middle of it, and a little after, it was taken into the Window again, then I heard some body say. What a fine opportunity would this be for some of the Nuns to steal out, or get a Gallant into them, if they did but know it: Especially, now that this Common shore is dry, and while we are mending of it, I needed no more, and having took notice on which side the Window was, which was all over covered with a Company of Weeds, that grew round it, I presently went

went to my Company again.

Two Nights after, I took occasion (after I had got about me all that I cared most for) to walk something later than ordinary in the Garden, and when I was ask't whether I would not yet retire, it growing dark, I made answer, that my head that had ak'd all that day, being much better, since I had been in the Air, I would enjoy the advantage of it so long as I could, so the rest going in, I continued my walk, so soon as I saw the Coast clear, knowing that I should not be long without being call'd for, I made towards the Well, where I hastily set my self in one of the Buckets, and holding with both my hands that part of the Rope, which was between the Pully and the other Bucket, I gently poys'd my self down till I came to the Window, where having got in, I let go the Bucket again, which return'd to the same posture, as before, I found my self in a dark, low, slimy, wet place, which way to stir I knew not, nor which way to get out of it, that made me wish my

self

self in the Garden again, with all my heart. But considering, that it was not wishes but actions, that should get me out again, now that I was in, I resolv'd to go any way forward. It happen'd that I took that which after a long time brought me to the Rives side, where that Common-shore did empty it self, when it was running. I had so much light as to perceive it was not even with the ground, but of what hight from it I could not judge; I set my self down, to try whether my feet would then reach the ground, and as I was reaching out one foot as far as I could, the slimyness that was upon the stones, made me slip quite off and down came I to the ground, on which I fell so soft, that I had no other hurt than what the fear had given me, so soon as I had recover'd my self, I endeavoured to get from that nasty place, but I was so heavy with the great quantity of Mud that did stick very thick all about me, that I was forced to leave one of my petticoats behind me, which I did sink

in

in the Mud, that it might not betray me, I had not gone far upon a Gravel and Sandy bank, but that I met with a Waterman in his Boat who ask'd me, how I came there, I told him, that in the dark I had accidentally fallen off of the bridge in a Muddy place, which had sav'd me from hurting my self; that if he would carry me over the Water, where I was going when I had fallen, I would pay him well, he presently took me into his Boat, and carried me over. As we were crosing the Water, I ask'd him, if he knew ere a house that I might go into to dry my self, because I was so wet and dirty, that I could not go any further till I had made my self clean, he told me, that if I would go to his house, I should be very welcome, and that I should Lie in his Daughters bed with her, while his old Wife should clean my Cloaths. I was glad to hear that, and did assure him to be grateful to him: We came on shore, and the good old man according to his word, did lead me to his house, where a

good

good fire was made, at which having very well warm'd and dry'd my self I went to bed to the young Maiden, taking with me in my handkerchief, what I had in my pockets.

In the morning early, my Cloaths were brought to me, very clean and dry, but much stain'd, with the blackness of the mud I was wishing that I had any other for them, they did so stink I told them; when the good woman looking over them very well, and finding that they were of fine stuff, and almost new, told me that if I pleas'd she would give me her Daughters new petticote and Westcoat for them, and thank me to boot, I presently agreed to it, and I had no sooner put them on which fitted me very well, but that the old woman told me, that by this change, she was out of a great trouble which she had been in, to get her Daughter some Wedding Cloaths, and that mine came very seasonably; for that purpose, I having given them something for their pains, I desired the good woman to let her Daughter guide me into

into the Road that went from *Roan* to *Paris*, and that then I should find out my way home again well enough but that I did not know where I was at present the good woman did presently grant me my request, and the young Maiden having brought me where I desired, she left me.

I was very well pleas'd that I had so fortunately got into a dress that did so well disguise me, I was walking along the Road when a Cart did overtake me, they that drove it ask'd me where I was going so early, I answered to the next Town, they told me, that if I would make them drink, they would carry me thither with that I having promis'd them a pot of Sider they got me up into the Cart where I rested my self, and was carried some three leagues towards *Paris*. I had not been long in the village after I had given those fellows money to drink, but the stage Coach from *Roan* to *Paris* came by, there was but one passenger in it, and that was a woman, the Coach-man seeing me on foot told me that if I would go to *Paris* he would

would carry me thither very cheap, I told him that if he would carry me but within half a days journey of Paris, I would give him content; we agreed upon two Crowns, of which the one I gave in hand, this was a great satisfaction to me, especially having the Company of a good Gentlewoman, who being pleased with my carriage and discourse did take me for her bedfellow, and paid for my diet all the way, at the dinner of the last day I paid the Coachman his other Crown, and so he went his way with the old Gentlewoman, and I stay'd behind in the place they had left me in, being a Market Town, and the next day Market day, I had the curiosity to walk into the Market, and there amongst the rest of the Country Lasses, I heard one say to another that she was weary of her place, because it was an Inn, and she not being us'd to be where Travellers and people of fashion resorted she did not know how to behave her self amongst persons that expected so much attendance, and respects which she did not know how to

pay

pay them, that if she could get any body to be in her stead she would willingly resign her place to them, and and return home to her Father to look after the dary which was her element, this discourse made me think that it might prove a good place for me to retire unto, (I daring, not trust my self to that little world *Paris*) and there stay, till I heard news from my friends, and how my concerns did stand at *Roan*, I addressed my self to the Maid, and told her that if she would help me to that place, she had newly mention'd, I should be thankful to her. The Maid presently made me answer that if I would go with her she would carry me thither behind her, not doubting but that my good mein would give me a welcome.

The thing prov'd as the Maid had said; for she had no sooner shew'd me to her Master, and told him that she had provided me to be in her place, but he seem'd to be very well pleas'd at it, and so I was entertained. That night I lay with that Maid who I was to succeed; she inform'd, me of the work

which

which I was to do, which was about the Chambers. The next morning I gave her thanks, with something to buy her a pair of Gloves, after which she went her wayes, and I remain'd in her Room.

It was in that place, where about a fortnight after, I had the good fortune to be instrumental in the preservation of my dear *Le Noble*, for which I shall ever be thankful to my Stars, for having by that means endear'd my self to you.

Le Noble having kiss'd and given her a thousand thanks for her pleasant story, and those kind expressions that she concluded it withal. But my Dear *Susette* continu'd he In all thy Travels, hadst thou never any affronts offer'd thee? Nor no attempts upon thy chastity? My dear *Le Noble* reply'd *Susette*: It is not so long, since I have given my self up unto thee without any reserve, that I should so soon forget it. I cannot deny, but that divers attempts have been made upon me, by such as had a good opinion of my person, though not so of my Virtue.

But

But besides the assurance that I now give thee, that never any body did succeed, thou shalt finde, that I come a pure Maid into thy embraces: With that hiding her blushes in his bosome, Think not the worse of me, continued she, my dear Le Noble, for being so free with thee, but attribute this to my Natural honour, and conclude, that I will be as true and faithful to thee, as if we were married according to all those formalities, which the Law of the Land does require. I must confess that I am young and wild, yet I am not so ignorant, but that I know Marriage to be the Union of man and woman together by the ties of sincere Vows and Protestations, to be faithful and true to one another, and to live together in constant Love and mutual affection, till those Vows be dissolved by the death of one of the parties, or by the mutual consent of both: But what the Laws and Customs bind us unto, are things brought in as necessary conveniences, and not exactly essential. Nay, I know further, continued she, that men will and

do commonly take more liberty in the State of Marriage; then the modesty of our Sex does usually allow us. Therefore I shall not wonder, if my dear *Le Noble*, does as the rest of men: but one thing I shall desire, that he would promise me: which is, that he would ever prefer me in his affections to all others, and as to the rest, let him take his liberty, which I freely do grant to him.

These kind expressions from *Sufette*, could not but make a great impression upon *Le Nobles* generous spirit, who in gratitude, did return her many kind assurances that he would ever have an high esteem for her, and more love than for any one else. That he would never consent to a separation, except they both did see an unavoidable necessity for it, which otherwise would render them both miserable; that he had too tender an affection for her, to purchase his pleasure and satisfaction, at so dear a rate as her ruine. With that having again, given one another a thousand kisses, and as many other testimonies

and

and assurances of affections, they went to Supper, *Susetta* promising *le Noble*, to give him after Supper a full account of what had happened to her, during his stay at *Paris*, which she told him, would be worth his hearing.

They having Supp'd, and the Cloath taken away, *Susetta* continued her Story, as follows.

The Continuation of Susetta's *Story.*

I Do suppose, that you might be got to *Paris*, when the Host my Master return'd home without the Curate, who I did never see after, but my Master I perceiv'd came back very discontented, and to out of humour that he did beat his choler upon every one in the house but me, which made me hope that they had mist of you, and that you were got safe to *Paris*, a while after he retired himself to his Chamber, and gave speci[al or]der

der to all his Servants, not to say, that he was in the house, but if any body should come to ask after him, they should tell them, that he was gone to see a Brother of his, that was dying, and whose Heir he expected to be, after that my Master would all day long keep within his Chamber locked up; and at Nights he would take his Horse, ride out, and come home again in the Morning before day: This had continued five or six weeks, when one Night there came in a Gentleman on Horseback, to Sup and Lye at our house, he presently call'd to be conducted to a bed Chamber, which was accordingly done: I perceived that he had looked very earnestly upon me, by the way to his Chamber, he gave charge that a Supper should be got ready with all diligence, for he would make haste to bed, that he might be gone in the morning before day. An hour after I was call'd for up to that Gentleman; I came, and I found my Master very merry with him, and busie in discourse, which made me offer to go back again, thinking that

my Master had supply'd him, with what he wanted, but my Master stepping to the door, and taking me by the hand, did pull me by force, and and then shov'd me into the Travellers arms, saying, take her, she is yours: to which I answer'd, that there were more than two words to that bargain, and that though I was his Servant for the present, yet so long as I was not his Slave, he had no right to Give or Sell me; my Master told the Gentleman, that he should not mind my talk, that I was a young foolish Girl, but that he should teach me better things in a short time, with that the stranger beginning to be somewhat rude, I protested that if he would not desist, I would shriek or call out so loud, that the whole house, and all the Neighbourhood should hear me, with that the Gentleman did let me go, and I presently flung out of the Chamber, and would not come there any more, but I went immediately to a good old womans house our next Neighbour, whence notwithstanding all they could

could do or say; I did not return home, till news were brought me that the Gentleman and my Master were gone to bed. When I found the Coast clear, I went and lay upon my bed with my Cloaths on, where I had not been two hours, but that my Chamber door was broke open, I presently seiz'd on, gagg'd, and bound, and set before a man on Horse-back, who carried me away in the dark and silence of the Night, notwithstanding all the resistance that I could make, we had not rid two Leagues, when we were overtaken by the Gentleman, who had offered some rudeness to me the night before: It was then just break of day, which affoarded as much light, as served me for to know him again, at the sight of him, I concluded that their design was to ravish me, and after that to cut my Throat and cast me into some hole: These apprehensions seizing on my Spirits all at once, and on such a sudden made me fall into a swound, which being perceiv'd by him, that held me on Horse-back, they got me off of the Horse,

in a place out of the Rode, where when I came to my self again, I found that I was unbound, ungagg'd, and unlaced, the Gentleman holding my head in his lap, while his man was gone to look for water, with which he return'd a little after I had come to my self again. I began to struggle a little, and offer to get my head from his lap, when he thus spoke to me with a discompos'd voice and a trembling fit, which I was sensible was upon him.

Fair Maid, if it is your pleasure, to have your head off of me, at least be pleas'd to rest it against this Tree, while you hear what I shall say, with that having laid his Cloak in a heap against the Tree, he laid my head upon it, and afterwards did thus continue his discourse: Had not that base man your Master given me an ill character of you, I had never made any further attempt upon your Chastity: for I was so fully perswaded by your first resistance, and the high resentment which you expressed last night, both in your words and actions, that

I had never attempted any thing further, but that he did assure me, that it was not the first time you had done so with others, to whom you had freely yeilded to in last, these words, and his assurance, that he would bring you to yield to go away with me in the Morning, made me part with twenty Pistols, which I had bargained with him for you. But now, that I find you quite another Person, then he represented you to me; I hear do swear, by all that is sacred to offer you, not the least violence, and I do most heartily beg your pardon, for what I have done, assuring you, that if ever I can gain your affections with kindnesses and services, I shall think my self most happy, but that I will never endeavour to make my self so by any base means, for proof whereof, continued he, if you please I shall immediately return you back, or carry you to any other place, you shall please to command me; he further added, that if her Master had not assured him, that I was gone before very well satisfied, he would never have come after me, but to have

brought me back again, as he was still ready to do.

These things with some more he did speak with such an ayr and accent, as made me give credit to what he said, which having somewhat reviv'd my Spirits, I thus reply'd to him, Sir, to shew you that I give faith to your words, I humbly beg of you on my knees, that you would take pity on a poor distressed young Maid, and according to these assurances, you have given me of your civill carriage towards me for the future, you would be pleas'd to convey me any where, but where that Monster is. If it were your convenience, I confess, I had rather go to Caen, than any where else: But, I fear, it is too far, at which the Gentleman, did presently reply, that though he could not get children, without the hazard of his life, yet to shew me, that nothing should deter him from serving me with all his power, he would conduct me there, being confident, by my discourse and actions, that I was another person than I pass'd for, and such a one as he did not doubt

doubt but did deſerve a thouſand times more and greater ſervices, I having informd him, that if I once got ſafe to *Cane*, by his meanes, he might know ſomething further of my condition, he ſet me one horſe back, behind that fellow that had carried me out of the Inn, where I did ſit, till we came to the next place, where I might be fitted with ſuch things as were neceſſary for a woman that rides on horſe back.

About two hours after we came to a Market Town, where I was put into a Coach, which by good fortune was going to *Cane*, in which there was an empty place; It was a Gentlemans Coach, but my Gentleman did prevail with the Company in it, to let me have a place, and giving ſomething to the Coachman he had the liberty, to tye a Cloak bag behind the Coach, which did much eaſe his mans horſe, that otherwiſe muſt have been left behind, having eaten ſomething for breakfaſt, and treated the company that was in the Coach, which were but Servants that tended upon

two young Children: the Coachman drove towards *Cane*, at dinner time my Gentleman did again treat the whole Company for my sake, and shewed me much more respect than my habit did require, which made the Company do the like, though they wondred at it, especially at his great care of me, never abandoning the Coach-side on horse back, so long as I was in it.

It was about the dusk of the evening, and we had not above three or four miles further to go to our Inn that night, when there suddenly came half a dozen men well mounted, upon a full speed, they presently seiz'd on the Coach-horses, and having cut their harnesses turn'd them loose, while others were busie about my Gentleman, who making resistance, was shot with a brace of Bullets through the head, with which he fell off of his horse stone dead, the Coach was presently ransackt, the Gentlemans man so soon as he saw his Master on the ground, fled as fast as his horse could carry him, and all the goods that were in the Coach,

Coach, were taken out and carried away; this buſineſs was done on ſuch a ſudden and with ſuch diſpatch, that there was not much more time ſpent in the execution, then I have employ'd in the relation of it; ſince my getting out of the Convent I had always carried all the gold I had with the Diamond Ring in a little purſe, which I conſtantly wore in my boſome, day and night, in that alſo was the Ring which you had given me, thoſe that robb'd us had not had time to ſtrip us, by that means I ſav'd all I had, except ſome Silver, which was in my pocket, my papers I found again ſcatter'd about the Coach, and upon the Road, and the ſmall bundle of Cloaths, which did belong to me that had been given to the fellow, that carried me away, I found afterwards by good fortune in in that Cloak bag, which belong'd to the dead Gentleman, it had been taken up on the road by ſome Servants that belong'd to a company of Gentlemen, which came up to us, not above a quarter of an hour after, we had been robb'd, who finding us in that ſad con-

dition did presently conclude, that those persons they had met were they, that had done the deed, who knowing by their spies, that they were too strong a party, and so near them, it had made them make such extraordinary haste in plundering us, one of the Gentlemen asking whose Cloak bag this was, one of the Coach company made answer that it was mine, upon that it was given me, the first thing that was done after they had found no life left in the poor Murdered Gentleman, was to send their Servants, which were six in number, some to get the Coach horses and the Gentlemans also, which was run away after the Coach horses, so soon as his Master was fallen, and and the rest to Gallop to the next town, to get some conveniency to carry the dead body thither, mean time the Gentlemen began to examine to whom the Coach did belong, and those pritty Children, that were in it: the Servants did answer, that they belonged to a Gentleman, which they named, which they had been to fetch from their Grandmothers, where they had been for

ſome time, and that they were going with them to their Fathes houſe, who liv'd within two or three leagues of *Cane*, this made the Gentlemen the more ready and diligent in aſſiſting us, becauſe they knew the Gentleman, and there was ſuch care taken, that in two hours time there came a Cart in which the dead body was lay'd, and the Harneſs of the Coach were made fit to carry us to the Inn, where we were conducted by the Gentlemen: during the way, *I* having told my company that *I* was a meer ſtranger to the Gentleman, *I* earneſtly entreated two women that were in the Coach, to own me as one of their fellow ſervants, as they might perceive, that the Gentlemen did take me to be, which they promis'd me to do, and they were as good as their word, and very civil to me all the way, concluding that it was my good face that had made the Gentleman ſo kind to me, of which kindneſſes they had been made large partakers; being come into the Inn, we women and the Children where preſently had into one room, where there

there was three beds, as we had desired. There we supp'd altogether, lockt our selves in, and had a great deal of Womens chat, amongst which I gave them a particular account of what had so lately befallen to me.

I being out of danger as I thought, and my fears being blown over, I had got into a jolly humour, which did please my company so well, that they declar'd they were very glad they had met with so good company as I was, then in a merry humour having shew'd them, by pulling my Purse out of my Bosome, how I had frustrated the Robbers of a good Booty, they having lost all their money. After they had look'd a pritty while upon the two Rings they said, that they did imagine that I was some other person than I appear'd to be, which now I had confirm'd, I being desirous to draw them still more and more into a good opinion of me, that I might keep my place the rest of the journey in the Coach, without which I did not know what I should do. I told them I was a Gentlemans Daughter of *Rouen*.

Who,

Who having been compell'd, to promise my Parents that I would marry a person that I could not Love, to shun a Recluse life in a Monastry, I had the day before the Marriage, stole away from them; That my design in going now to *Caen*, where I had some Relation, was to learn in some disguise, how my affairs stood there, to endeavour my Peace with my Parents, with whom I should never be reconcil'd without the breaking off of that match, which I did so abhor, that I would rather chuse death than it. That the reason I earnestly begg'd of them to assist me in what they could, they not knowing how soon it might be their condition. To this I added, That I had a great mind to dress me in man's apparel, both to keep me from being known, as also because I thought it the safest way to secure me for the future, from such dangers as I had so lately escaped. I spoke these things with so much passion and tenderness, that I won them wholly to me, one of them promising, that she would bring me to her Mothers house, that was not far from that place where

they

they were going, and within two little leagues of *Cane*, where *I* should be very welcome, and where *I* should receive all manner of civil usage and services, such as good Countrey people could afford.

From that time, I was treated with more respect than before, and when we were weary of chatting it growing late, they gave me the choice of a bed by my self, where I slept all night without awaking: To make short, my dear heart, we all got safe to our journies end, I was conducted to the maid's Mothers house, where while a mans black suit, which was with other things in the Cloak bag, fitting for me, I sent to *Cane* for a Perriwig, a Hat, a Sword, and all other things fitting to make me a compleat Cavalier, having all things ready to appear in publick, after I had return'd the people of the House many thanks for all their kindnesses to me, I went to *Cane*, where I was no sooner arriv'd, but I got a Messenger, who carried me a Letter to my Scotch Lover, from whom I thought, I should get a better account

then

then any body else could give me of all my concerns: Not doubting, but that his Love to me, would have made him very inquisitive after me; and that the same love would quickly bring him to me. If I did but in the least desire it: Nor doubting, but to shake him off again, when I should think it convenient. The Letter was much to this purpose.

My dear Saundy,

WHen I have assur'd you, that all which I have lately acted, was only in order to preserve my self for you, I presume, I shall not need to make use of any other inducements to bring you to me, than to let you know where I am. Therefore I invite you to make all the haste you can possible to come to the white horse in Cane, *where you will find the that is only yours,*

Sincere.

The Messenger that carried it, found him desperately ill, in so much that he thought, he could not live to the Journies end, that he had been so overjoy'd at the reception of my Letter, that he had immediately given order to get a

Litter

Litter ready to carry him the next morning out of Town, to take the air, as he pretended, with that he gave me a Letter from him, and I assure you, Sir, continu'd the fellow: No Lover, could have made more Caresses to a Letter, from his beloved Mistress, than he made of yours, which he believ'd he had seen him kiss twenty times, and read as often over in private; and that every body in the house were wondring at so great a change in him, which made them very inquisitive to know of me, whether it came not from a young Gentlewoman. I told my Messenger, to take of all suspition, that though it came from me, yet, that there was such news in it from a Gentlewoman, as would as much please him. But since he's so ill as you say, I have a mind to meet him upon the Rode, least his death should prevent me from accomplishing that good office which I have promised my kinswoman to do for her: having thus said to the Messenger, I opened the Letter, in which, I read as follows.

My

MY dearest, dearest Dear, thy half dead Sawndy.
By strength of Love with Litter and burnt Brandy.
Will run through, Fire, Air, Earth, and Water too.
Through thick and thin, over Boot, over Shoo.
To come to thee: with sickness I'm so prest.
I can no more, let Porter tell the rest.

S.

By this *I* found though he could not leave off his Plague of Rhime, that he was really very ill, of which *I* did inform the Messenger; who told me that he had swounded twice away the Writing of those few lines, about which he had spent two hours time at least. This made me employ this fellow, to get me immediately a Horse, to be going that very day to meet him.

Mean time *I* was very well pleas'd within my self at all this, by which *I* found *I* should the sooner and the easier compass my ends, then *I* could

ever have imagin'd, if *I* did but find him alive. The fellow having got me a Horse; We both presently set forwards, we were got a little above halfway to *Roan*, where we met with my poor Lover, who was laid in bed in an Inn of a Market Town: Not being able to pursue his Journey any further. He had been so prudent, not to mention a word of me to any body; therefore, when I came to his bedside, taking him by the hand, *I* did softly whisper in his ear, that *I* was his *Destinie*, come to meet him in that disguise, that *I* might not be discover'd: He presently started up, holding me fast by the hand with both his, and having given order that every body in the room, should retire: He did endeavour to express, as well as he could, what joy he receiv'd at the sight of me. Though he fear'd that it was too late to continue long, the grief which he had taken for my loss, having come so near his heart, that it had reduc'd him to that sad extremity, in which *I* saw him. Adding that his greatest trou-

ble

ble had been how to order things so, that in case *I* should ever be found again, *I* should inherit all that he would leave to me at his decease: That *I* should now pass for a Nephew of his, though he had no relation that he knew of, and that he would forthwith make his Will, but if it were possible, he would willingly be retir'd to some private house out of Town, because that the perpetual noise of that place he was in would not let him take any rest. And so he concluded, *I* having return'd him many thanks, and once more assur'd him of my affections, we broke off our private discourse. He having bid me call for *Megrelain*, to whom he gave order to get things ready to remove presently. He desired that *I* should retire to take my Rest, while he would endeavour to do the like, to make him the more able to endure the Removing; with that he turn'd to sleep, and *I* went to another Room, where having call'd for a Pen and Ink to Write for an Eminent Physician at *Paris*, to come

to

to my Unkle (as I call'd him) I Writ that Letter, which brought you to me. Not long after, I was call'd to him again; he not being able to rest for the Noise, he bid me take care of his Removal, which I presently order'd: We were no sooner come to the House, which I had caus'd to be taken for him, but he call'd for all the persons belonging to it, and, in the presence of them all, he did declare, that I was his Nephew, and next Heir at Law, and that he would have every body, follow my directions.

This was the place wherein I had first the happiness to embrace my Dear *Le Noble*, who, I hope, will not have the worse opinion of his poor *Susetta*, for having given him so true and just an account of her whole Life, since it was in obedience to his Commands.

Le Noble having thank'd her and assured her, that if it were possible to Love her more then he did already, the Candidness she had us'd in the delivery of her own story, and the

freeness

fiteness which he found in all her other discourses and actions, would oblige him to it. That he intreated her to believe, that he really and readfully did love her, and would ever continue so to do, with that *Susetta* seeming desirous to sleep, *Le Noble* having taken his leave of her, was retiring into his Chamber, which was on the other side of the house, when *Susetta*, calling him back, told him, that hence forwards she would discharge her self on him, of the troublesome office of Purse-bearer, so desired that he should take that which lay upon the Table along with him, and the Writings of concern: *Le Noble* reply'd, I will obey you in all things; and thrusting his hand into the Purse, he took out a handful of Gold and Silver mix'd together, and which laying upon the Table, but least you should be too troublesome, continued he, with frequent demanding for Pins and such like trifles, let this lye by you, to supply you with such dayly occasions, and presently draw-

ing

ing the dose able after him, to take from her all occasion of reply, he retired to his Chamber, where I will leave him till the next Morning, which will produce them New Adventures, wherewith to begin the Second Part.

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